

TASS condemns U.S. ASAT test

MOSCOW (R) — The official Soviet news agency TASS on Saturday condemned U.S. testing of a satellite-killing weapon (See page 8) as a stepping up of war preparations and said the United States was pushing the world to the abyss of nuclear war. A TASS commentary described the testing by the Pentagon of an anti-satellite (ASAT) weapon on Friday as proof that "another round of the arms race in space, hinging on the notorious 'Star Wars' programme, has begun." Referring to a summit between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev due on Nov. 19-20, TASS said: "What is noteworthy is that this escalation of war preparations is taking place before the meeting of the Soviet and American leaders in Geneva."

Jordan Times

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Transport meeting opens in Syria

DAMASCUS (Petra) — Meetings of the general assembly of the Jordanian-Syrian Land Transport Company began here Saturday. The three-day meeting will discuss means to develop the company's operations and review its past activities. The Jordanian side in the meetings is led by Transport Minister Farhi Obeid while the Syrian side is led by his Syrian counterpart Youssef Ahmad. In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, in Damascus, Mr. Obeid, who arrived here earlier Saturday, said the meeting will also discuss bilateral relations in the field of transport. Such bilateral relations, he said, serve the economic integration march in the two countries within the framework of comprehensive coordination. Mr. Obeid referred to the existence of several Jordanian-Syrian joint companies which are aimed at serving the Arab economy. The Syrian transport minister said that periodical meetings are necessary to review the progress of the company.

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Jordan to send medical team to Sudan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet on Saturday decided to send a Jordanian medical team to Sudan to help victims of drought there. The Cabinet also decided to send a number of experts on oil refineries to help operate Sudanese oil refineries. It also approved the minutes of the meeting between Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib and his Sudanese counterpart who held talks during His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan's visit to Sudan last week.

Cabinet approves appointments

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet, which held an ordinary session Saturday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai, approved Mr. Adnan Al Talhoumi as Jordan's ambassador to Switzerland and non-resident ambassador to Austria. The Cabinet also decided to appoint Mr. Ahmad Qataish Al Azydeh as mayor of Madaba. Another decision by the Cabinet on Saturday was to transfer Mr. Ghaleb Barakat, Jordan's representative to the United Nations' European headquarters in Geneva, to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Amman as of Nov. 15.

Bangladeshi minister leaves

AMMAN (Petra) — Bangladeshi Industry and Trade Minister Zafer Irshad Ahmad left Amman on Saturday after a one day official visit to Jordan.

Tunisia thanks Iraq for support

BAGHDAD (R) — Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba has thanked Iraq for its support in the face of Libya's expulsion of thousands of Tunisian workers, Baghdad Radio said Saturday. The greeting came in a message on the Tunisia-Libya dispute to President Saddam Hussein delivered on Saturday by Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi, who arrived in Baghdad Friday night, it said. President Hussein reiterated Baghdad's support for Tunisia, which he said stemmed from Iraq's belief in Arab solidarity and its rejection of threats by any Arab country against another, the radio added.

Arab team on Gulf war to visit U.S.

TUNIS (Petra) — The U.S. administration has announced its plans to receive a seven-man Arab committee on Oct. 9 to follow up the latest developments of the Iran-Iraq war. The U.S. administration's agreement to the meeting was contained in a memo received by the Arab League Council. The visit was scheduled to take place on Aug. 5, but the Arab League General Secretariat asked the U.S. administration to postpone the date of the visit because it coincided with the holding of the recent extraordinary Arab summit. The committee's talks with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz are expected to focus on a possible U.S. role in efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war.

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Rifai and Syrian premier to meet in Jeddah tomorrow

Saudi crown prince optimistic over reconciliation process, says efforts made to reach Damascus-Baghdad understanding

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

PRIME MINISTER ZAID AL RIFAI and his Syrian counterpart Abdul Raouf Al Kasm will meet in Jeddah on Monday for talks on settling Jordanian-Syrian differences, Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz announced Saturday.

Prince Abdullah, head of an Arab committee charged with settling Syria's differences with Jordan and Iraq, told the Saudi Press Agency upon his return to Jeddah after talks in Damascus, Amman and Baghdad and a second visit to the Syrian capital over the past few days: "I am optimistic about the steps achieved by the Arab committee towards an understanding between Syria and Jordan. Efforts are still being made to reach an understanding between Syria and Iraq."

The three-member Arab committee, which also includes Tunisian Prime Minister Mohammad Mzali and Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Kibi, started its mission with talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and senior Syrian government officials in Damascus on Tuesday. The envoys travelled to Amman on Wednesday and held talks with His Majesty King Hussein and senior Jordanian leaders and arrived in Baghdad on Thursday for talks with Iraqi President Saddam

Hussein. After the Baghdad meetings, Prince Abdullah left for Damascus and Mr. Mzali and Mr. Kibi flew to Tunis. The Saudi crown prince, who has successfully mediated several Arab disputes in the past, held discussions with President Assad and returned to Jeddah Saturday.

Syria opposes the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Damascus also has deep ideological differences with Iraq and supports Iran in the five-year-old Gulf war.

The reconciliation committee was set up at the Casablanca Arab summit meeting last month to clear up inter-Arab differences before a regular Arab summit scheduled for Riyadh in November.

A Tunisian official accompanying the Arab committee said in Amman on Thursday that Jordan was showing "genuine flexibility and healthy attitudes" in efforts to patch up the differences.

The official, who preferred to remain anonymous, told the Jordan Times that the committee's current mission was to "sound out all parties and ascertain everyone's point of view." He refused reports that Syria was demanding that Jordan abandon the Feb. 11 agreement and drop its support for Iraq in the war. "Reports appearing in the media are, most of the time, contrary to truth," the official said.

Prime Minister Rifai said in recent press conference that Jordan does not have any fundamental differences with Syria over any issue and the existing differences are "Syria's own choice."

On Saturday, Mr. Rifai briefed the cabinet on the outcome of the contacts the reconciliation committee had with King Hussein and other Jordanian leaders, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. Reporting on a regular cabinet session held under the chairmanship of Mr. Rifai, Petra did not elaborate.

King, Crown Prince meet Swiss minister

By Sa'ad G. Hattar, Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein on Saturday conferred with Swiss Foreign Minister Pierre Aubert and reviewed with him the current situation in the Middle East and a number of international issues.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, which reported the meeting, did not give details of the meeting. But it is believed to have focused on the Feb. 11 Jordanian-Palestinian agreement on a joint political strategy towards solving the Palestinian question and developments after U.S. envoy Richard Murphy visited the region last month.

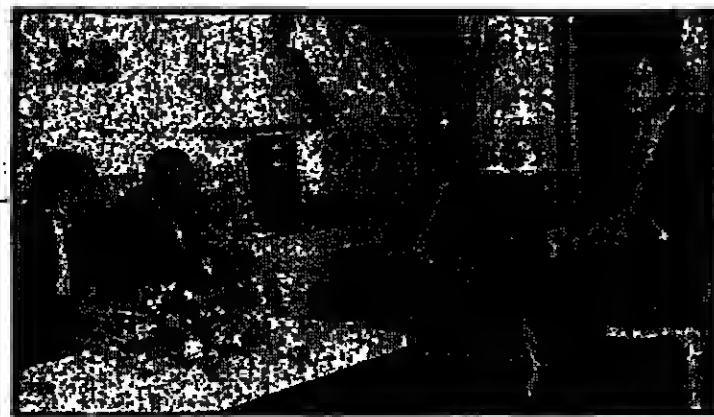
King Hussein and Mr. Aubert also discussed bilateral relations and means to strengthen them, Petra said.

Mr. Aubert is expected to hold a press conference on the outcome of his visit on Sunday before leaving for home.

Attending Saturday's meeting were Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and Jordan's Ambassador to Switzerland, Adnan Talhoumi.

Later on Saturday, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan conferred with the Swiss minister, Petra said. The Crown Prince and Mr. Aubert discussed bilateral relations, the agency said.

Prince Hassan briefed the Swiss minister on the Middle East situation and Israel's measures against the Palestinians living in the



His Majesty King Hussein on Saturday receives Swiss Foreign Minister Pierre Aubert (second from left) in a meeting attended by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri (right) occupied territories.

Earlier on Saturday, Mr. Aubert was received by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai at the Prime Ministry. The prime minister and Mr. Aubert reviewed the latest developments in the Middle East conflict after the signing of the Feb. 11 agreement, Petra said.

Bilateral relations and means to promote scope of cooperation between the two countries were also tackled at the meeting, it added.

The meeting was attended by Mr. Masri, Mr. Talhoumi, and Switzerland's Ambassador to Jordan Herald Bomer.

Formal talks between Mr. Aubert and Mr. Masri opened on Saturday. The focus of the talks were the Middle East conflict and the Palestinian question, in addition

to bilateral relations, Petra said. International issues of mutual concern were also discussed during the meeting, the agency said.

Mr. Masri briefed his Swiss counterpart on Jordan's efforts to bring about a just and durable solution to the Palestinian question, Petra said.

Mr. Masri also explained to Mr. Aubert the Feb. 11 accord between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The accord, Mr. Masri said, aims at achieving a comprehensive peace through an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations and attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council and all parties concerned in the conflict including the PLO.

Mr. Masri underlined the positive role that can be undertaken by Switzerland, as a neutral European country, in supporting the call for such a conference.

Discussing another Middle East issue, the five-year-old war between Iran and Iraq, Mr. Masri called for intensified efforts to seek an end to the Gulf conflict, Petra said.

Iran has been intransigent towards all calls for peace while Iraq has responded positively, Mr. Masri pointed out.

Mr. Aubert emphasised Jordan's key role in any effort for peace in the Middle East and expressed concern over the deteriorating situation in the region in the absence of a just solution to the Palestinian problem.

In another meeting the Swiss minister held on Saturday, Minister of Planning Abdullah Nsour briefed him on Jordan's investment law. The law, Dr. Nsour said, enables private sectors of both countries to set up common ventures in the Kingdom.

Dr. Nsour called on the Berne government to encourage Switzerland's private sector to increase imports from Jordan since the trade balance between the two countries is in favour of the latter. "Jordanian imports from Switzerland have increased from \$11 million to \$115 in the last six years," Dr. Nsour pointed out.

Swiss firms and institutions should be given support to purchase Jordanian potash and fertilisers, he said.

The Swiss government could be asked to provide such support, he said.

The next meeting of the committee would be arranged through consultations among its members, the communiqué added.

Mr. Arafat, who has been pressing for the deployment of an Islamic peace force on the borders of Iran and Iraq, told reporters after the meeting that the proposal would be "tested" in the upcoming contacts.

So will the "mini-committee" formed by the conference, he also said, but did not elaborate on this score.

"We took positive and constructive decisions to solve the problem, and there are resolutions adopted that will remain secret till the committee finds new means of ending the war," stated the PLO chairman.



Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak greets His Majesty King Hussein upon the King's arrival in Cairo on Saturday on a brief visit (AP wirephoto)

King pays visit to Cairo, holds consultations with Mubarak

Combined agency dispatches

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak met on Saturday for talks at a senior official said were aimed at maintaining the momentum for Middle East peace ahead of separate visits to Washington.

"Our goal is to keep the momentum and maintain this drive towards peace without abandoning our basic rights," Osama Baz, Mr. Mubarak's top adviser on political affairs, told reporters.

Dr. Baz said Egypt hoped the United States "will be able to play an active, positive role" in the Middle East peace process.

"Otherwise the risks will be great for everybody and this will be helping only the extremists on both sides," he added.

Dr. Baz also urged Israel to be more cooperative towards Arab peace proposals.

King Hussein, emerging from the three-hour meeting which included a working lunch, said he and Mr. Mubarak had discussed "everything" but gave no details. The King returned to Amman later on Saturday.

Egypt's Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Meguid described the meeting as important in view of the two leaders' planned talks in Washington later this month. Mr. Mubarak is to meet President Reagan on Sept. 25 while the King arrives in Washington a week later.

Attending Saturday's talks in Cairo were Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai and Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Egyptian Prime Minister Ali Lutfi, Speaker of the Consultative Council (Shura) Subi Abdul Hakem, Speaker of the People's Assembly Ref'at Al Mahjoub, Mr. Abdel Meguid and Dr. Baz.

Dr. Baz said a recent Middle East tour by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy "did not achieve much" and both Egypt and Jordan were in the process of reassessing the situation.

Egypt was concerned that the peace process "could reach a standstill... that is why King Hussein and President Mubarak decided to

meet to formulate their perception of future movements," he said.

They had decided to "concert their positions" before meeting Mr. Reagan and West European leaders this month, he added.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher visits Cairo and Amman next week, but Dr. Baz said King Hussein's talks with President Mubarak were not directly linked to her tour.

The weekly Akhbar Al Yom newspaper said on Saturday Mr. Mubarak would have talks with President Francois Mitterrand of France and is scheduled to visit Spain on Sept. 19 for talks with King Juan Carlos.

Jordan restored relations with Cairo last September after a five-year break and King Hussein and President Mubarak have since worked closely to reactive the peace process with the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Dr. Baz said Egypt was in contact with "high-ranking, trusted PLO officials" in the search for a settlement.

U.S. vetoes resolution on Israeli acts in W. Bank

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United States vetoed on Friday a draft resolution in the Security Council that criticised Israel's treatment of Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Exercising the prerogative for the first time since he became the United States chief delegate, Lieutenant General Vernon Walters termed the draft "one-sided" and an encouragement to violence and retaliation by hardening the attitudes of the parties.

Ten of the 15 members voted for the text. Australia, Britain, Denmark and France cast abstentions.

The group of Arab states brought the question to the council, accusing Israel of repressive measures in the occupied territories. Diallah Al Fatah, the Syrian delegate, spoke of massive killings. Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli delegate attempted to counter charges.

The rejected resolution would have had the council deplore "the repressive measures taken by Israel since Aug. 4, 1985, against the civilian Palestinian population in the Israeli-occupied territories, especially in the West Bank and Gaza" and call on the Israelis to stop all repressive measures, including deportations.

On the date mentioned, Israel re-instituted "administrative detention" and deportation in the West Bank and Gaza after a lapse of several years.

In his statement shortly before casting his veto, Gen. Walters said: "Such a resolution as the one before us undercuts rather than strengthens the ability of his body (the council) to play a positive role in resolving problems which are the real cause of the violence, by exacerbating an already volatile situation."

Sir John Thomson of Britain, who is president of the council this month, said in explanation of his abstention that despite London's "unhappiness about certain aspects of the conduct of the Israeli authorities," the text was unsatisfactory.

He said that the deportation of more than one person was a violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention. Nor had the Israelis acted with all the sensitivity that was clearly required in the tense circumstances prevailing in the occupied lands, he said.

In an address to the council, Jordan's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Abdullah Salah said a new generation has been born in the occupied Arab territories after 18 years of the Israeli occupation of the territories.

Palestinian Federation appeals to ILO to exert pressure on Israel, page 3

OIC to seek 'high-level dialogue' with Iran, Iraq

JEDDAH (AP) — A panel of Islamic leaders seeking an end to the five-year-old Iran-Iraq war announced on Saturday they had entrusted Gambian President Dawda Jawara to push through "a high-level... constructive dialogue" that would lead to peace between the two Gulf foes.

In a final communiqué at the end of a three-day closed conference in this Saudi port city, the nine members of the Islamic peace committee expressed their "profound regret" at the escalation of hostilities between the two countries with the inherent threats, they said, of internationalising the conflict or expanding its scope to the neutral parts of the Gulf waterway.

Mr. Jawara chairs the committee which was set up by the 45-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) since 1981 to work for a peaceful settlement to the Iran-Iraq hostilities, which are now entering their sixth year.

This was the eighth meeting of the committee since its inception, with its previous efforts failing to record progress.

The conference was attended by President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq of Pakistan, Bangladesh President H.M. Ershad and Jawara, Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad of Malaysia, Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat and OIC Secretary-General Sharifuddin Fiazda.

Turkey, Senegal and Guinea — its three other members — were represented by their foreign ministers.

The next meeting of the committee would be arranged through consultations among its members, the communiqué added.

Iraq reports new raid on ship as tug burns in Gulf

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq reported its second attack on a "large naval target" in the Gulf within 24 hours on Saturday as a Dutch salvage tug continued to burn out of control after an air strike on Friday.

A military spokesman said Iraqi planes hit a naval target — Baghdad's usual term for an oil tanker or cargo ship — at 0130 GMT near the Iranian coast.

There was no immediate independent confirmation of the latest Iraqi report.

Gulf shipping sources, meanwhile, said the salvage tug Matisse-1, owned by the Dutch firm Smit International, was still burning out of control in the waterway.

The tug was hit around 1200 GMT on Friday, the time Iraq said it had attacked another "large naval target" off the Iranian coast. There were no injuries among the tug's 18 crew members, sources said.

The restrictions, to be imposed on Sunday, require some 300 Soviet employees of the U.N. in New York and U.N. staff members from Afghanistan, Cuba, Iran, Libya and Vietnam to reserve travel arrangements and accommodation for trips beyond a 40-kilometre radius of central Manhattan.

They must also provide the U.S. mission to the United Nations with advance notification and itineraries for all travel in the U.S.

TASS assails U.S. curbs on Soviet U.N. delegates

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The official Soviet news agency TASS on Saturday condemned a Reagan administration decision to impose travel restrictions on Soviet members of the U.N. secretariat as a hostile action violating international commitments.

"The hostile action has sparked off indignation at the United Nations," TASS said, citing objections to the measure raised by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

MARIE BROTHERS
COMMERCIAL COMPANY,
agents of

Rada, West End and Odeon watches in Jordan

welcome the distinguished guest of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Swiss Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Pierre Aubert and the accompanying delegation, wishing them a happy stay in Jordan and further friendly relations between the two countries.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ministry holds Islamic celebrations today

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs will hold a celebration on Sunday at the Al Hussein Mosque on the occasion of the new Hijri year, which falls on Monday. During the celebration Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, Ministry of Interior Undersecretary Ahmad Aqayleh and Press and Publications Director General Mousa Kilani will deliver sermons.

Youth minister receives Chinese team

AMMAN (Petra) — Youth Minister Hisham Al Sharari Saturday received the ambassador of the Peoples Republic of China, Mr. Chang Jim, accompanied by a youth delegation which is currently on a visit to Jordan at the invitation of the ministry. Mr. Sharari praised the Jordanian-Chinese relations, particularly in the youth and sports fields and called for bolstering cooperation through holding further sports meetings between youths in both countries. The head of the Chinese youth delegation, thanked the minister and the Jordanian officials for the friendly reception he received during his visit to Jordan.

Archaeology team visits Salt

SALT (Petra) — The Friends of Archaeology led a group of ambassadors and members of Arab community on a visit to a number of archaeological sites in Salt on Saturday. The visit included the ancient castle, the archaeology museum, and the Roman cemetery. The society president briefed the guests on the historical significance of these sites. The Salt conference on the conservation of ruins, held in 1979, recommended that Salt be considered an ancient historical city and that its unique architectural aspects be preserved.

Balqa Awqaf plans to spend JD 680,000

SALT (Petra) — Balqa Governorate's executive board Saturday discussed the Awqaf Department's five year development plan. Salt Awqaf Director Muflih Al Dabbas said that the department's plan includes the construction and expansion of 38 mosques at a total cost of JD 530,000, in addition to JD 150,000 for covering staff costs.



AGREEMENT SIGNED: President of the Water Authority of Jordan Mohammad Saleh Al Khani (second from left) on Saturday signs 17 agreements worth JD 10 million for the construction of water and sewerage networks and purification stations in various parts of Jordan. Attending the signing ceremony are the directors of the companies which will implement these projects, mayors of the municipalities involved and senior WAJ officials (Petra photo)

Cabinet appoints members to JEA board of directors

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet on Saturday decided to appoint Ministry of Finance Undersecretary Abdul Majid Qasem, Ministry of Public Works Undersecretary Mutaz Bilheisi, Ministry of Planning Secretary General Ziad Fariz, Mr. Asem Ghoshieh from the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, and Mr. Marwan Bushnaq, deputy director

general of Jordan Electricity Company as members of the Jordan Electricity Authority's (JEA) board of directors. The JEA's board of directors is chaired by Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Hisham Al Khatib and includes Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Undersecretary Ibrahim Badran and JEA Director-General Mohammad Said Arafah.

Seminar on drinking water to open Tuesday

AMMAN (J.T.) — A seminar on ways to upgrade the quality of drinking water supplies is scheduled to be held at the Ministry of Health on Tuesday in cooperation with the World Health Organisation (WHO). The seminar, which will be attended by WHO and ministry experts, will be opened by Health Minister Zaid Hannach.

Wadi Ziglab survey clarifies historical links between highlands and Jordan Valley

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

JORDAN VALLEY — Archaeologists and historians have always known that the side wadis linking the Jordan Valley with the Jordanian highlands and plateau to the east have served for thousands of years as natural migration routes for both human beings and animal herds. In ancient times, as today, the wadis were logical routes that pastoral nomads travelled with their herds of animals on their annual migrations between the highlands and the summer and winter valleys. In various prehistoric and historical periods, the major wadis, with their plentiful supply of water, vegetation and animal resources, also attracted people to build permanent villages and live there on a year-round basis. But until recently, scholars have not often looked at ancient settlement patterns within individual wadi systems.

This was the aim of two Canadian scholars, Edward B. Banning of the University of Toronto and Clare Fawcett of McGill University, who recently surveyed the Wadi Ziglab, in the northern part of the Jordan Valley. They aimed not only to identify ancient sites that other archaeologists may have missed, but also to reveal patterns in the location of sites of various types with respect to environmental variables which we might expect to be culturally, and particularly economically, important to the ancient occupation of these sites.

Walking survey

They conducted a one-month walking survey of the area in late 1981, investigating 20 one-square-kilometre squares chosen at random, representing about one-fifth of the entire wadi area. This technique provides a statistically accurate picture of ancient land use in the Wadi Ziglab. The wadi covers some 120 square kilometres, much of it composed of very rough, steep and forested terrain. They also investigated other areas outside the 20 random squares, to visit of local archaeological sites, fill in blank areas of the survey area, and make sure they sampled all the different environmental zones of the wadi.

"We specifically wanted to try and determine whether, and how, environmental factors, such as soil, water, wind, land slope, geology and climate were judged by ancient inhabitants of the area as criteria for siting their settlements or villages," Mr. Banning said in a recent interview here.

If the surveyors could identify recurring patterns throughout different periods of history, with recognizable relationships between certain kinds of sites and environmental variables, he said, "it would follow that we can make predictions about where sites of the same kinds should occur in unsurveyed regions which shared with Wadi Ziglab a broadly similar culture." If so, future surveys could be carried out to test any such hypotheses or predictions of site locations.

The Wadi Ziglab itself was chosen for this experiment because of

its plentiful rainfall (important for both pastoralists and village-based farmers), because it was a natural land route linking the valley with the highlands, and because good studies were already available on the wadi's agricultural zones, geology, climate and vegetation cover.

The survey identified 110 sites, a handful of which had been known from the work of previous archaeologists. Some tentative land use patterns did start to emerge, and will be tested in future work in the country.

In general, the survey found that the heaviest period of occupation of the Wadi Ziglab was during the Roman/Byzantine era, which produced 50 of the 110 sites. The next most dense occupation periods were the Umayyad, the Iron Age and the Mamluke eras.

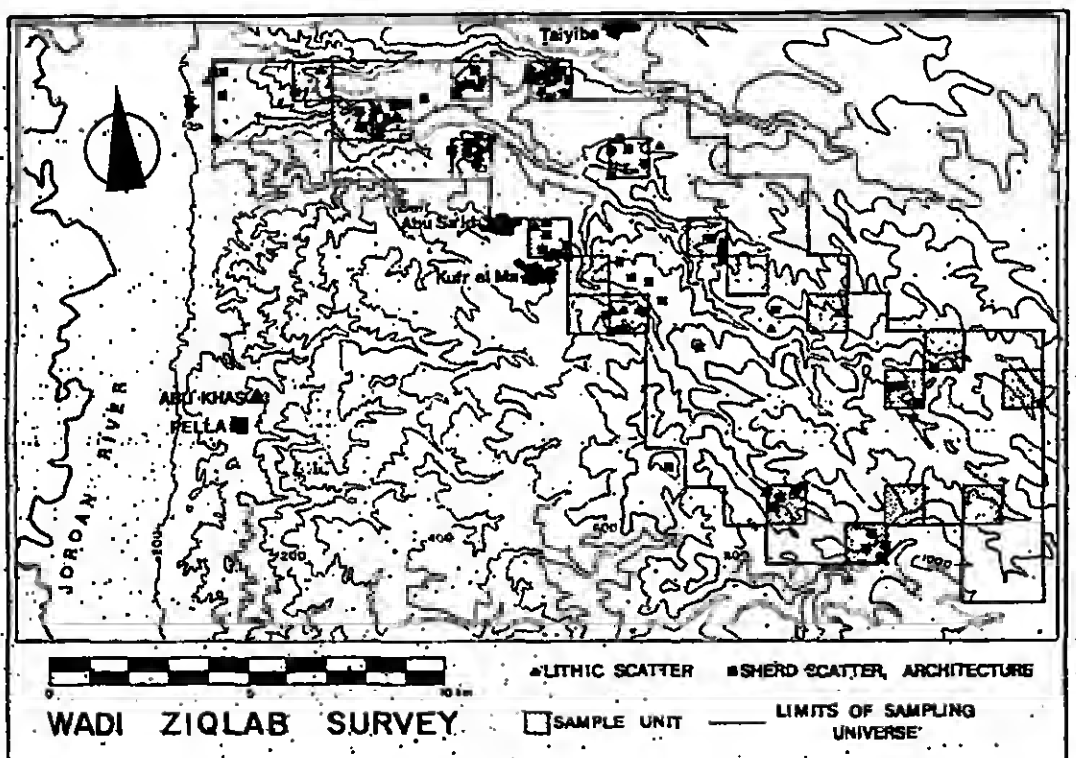
Oldest sites

From the oldest period of human occupation in the Wadi Ziglab, only seven Lower Paleolithic sites were identified, dating approximately from one million to 100,000 years ago. Two are near the upper reaches of small side wadis flowing into the Ziglab, overlooking what may have been good communication corridors. Two others were located above high cliffs, from where stone age hunters may have had good views of herd movements.

In the Middle Paleolithic period (100,000-40,000 years ago), 19 sites or possible sites suggest a more consistent exploitation of the highlands east of the Jordan Valley. The most important sites are located close to the Jordan Valley, which was a huge inland lake in that period. The west end of the Ziglab would have included marshlands that would have been ideal hunting grounds for the prehistoric inhabitants of the area. Some of the sites may have been ambush points, and others were probably quarry and/or "factory sites" where the people worked raw flint and chert into weapons and tools.

In the Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Ages, the Ziglab basin seems to have been lightly occupied. Artifacts from these periods seem to indicate transitory exploitation of the hills east of the valley by herders or hunting expeditions, rather than settled occupation. One reason for this may have been the heavy forest cover that discouraged intensive farming.

In the Middle and Late Bronze



Ages (2050-1200 B.C.), scanty evidence suggests that the colonisation of the highlands by village, hamlet, or camp-based agriculturalists may have started to occur during the 2nd Millennium B.C. Permanent settlement from this period on the floor of the Jordan Valley may have started to extend their catchments into the hills to the east, to exploit oak forests for charcoal fuel or pasture for sheep and goats. In general, the surveyors found, "Middle Bronze and Late Bronze sites tend to be located in the foothills and on the ridges overlooking the lower Ziglab."

Iron Age villages

During the Iron Age (1200-539 B.C.), human settlements became well established in the Ziglab basin. In all places where modern villages exist, the surveyors found Iron Age artifacts, and signs of a few important Iron Age villages. The placement of several possible Iron Age II forts or watchtowers suggests that a major communication route passed between the Jordan Valley and the highlands at this time, passing along the wadis Sumail, Ain Zuhayra and Wa'ra.

There were no Persian period sites identified, though the Late Hellenistic and Early Roman periods were identified by pottery sherd scatters at a handful of sites. In general, the surveyors report, "occupation from the end of the Iron II period to about the beginning of the 2nd Century A.D. seems to have been very slight in the Wadi Ziglab region."

Human activity reaches its peak in the late Roman/Byzantine period, and several probably important villages from this time were identified. These would have occupied the hinterland between the large late Roman cities at Pella, Jerash and Hama. Two aqueducts and many cisterns found during the survey seem to date from this period, when the irrigated agricultural exploitation of the area reached its peak.

Architectural fragments also suggest there were some public buildings along with the many

farmsteads and domestic structures that accommodated the population. One site showed walls of a large structure and some unfired column drums on top of an "acropolis." Earlier archaeologists working in the same area noted evidence of churches at Zenia as Saba, a late inscribed in Greek at Zuhayra, and a Corinthian column capital at Rihaba. The "Byzantine" inhabitants seem to have carefully avoided building on good agricultural land, preferring to site their settlements on less productive rocky soil or on steppe soils in the foothills.

'Pastoral camps'

The Byzantine era also showed remains of what the surveyors have called "pastoral camps", usually located 600-700 metres away from the villages in fields suitable for grain cultivation. This suggests that pastoral nomadism went hand in hand with settled agricultural villages, similar to the pattern that has defined modern Jordan during the past century.

Heavy human occupation of the Ziglab continued into the Late Byzantine/Umayyad era (7th/8th Centuries A.D.), which was represented by 36 sites. Most of these were located on previous sites from the Late Roman/Early Byzantine era. About ten may have been new sites, though even these were only a few hundred metres from sites that were occupied during the previous two centuries.

The areas show little occupation between the Umayyad and the Mamluke era, but the Mamluke settlements seem to use the same sites that had been inhabited during the Byzantine/Umayyad period. There are less than 20 Mamluke sites, but they are distributed almost exactly in the same manner as the Byzantine sites, suggesting a revival of agricultural activity in the 13th Century A.D. The difference, however, is that irrigated farming in the Ziglab seems to have come to an end after the Umayyad period, for in the Mamluke era the inhabitants appear to practice rainfed subsistence farming instead.

It is possible that a revival of agricultural exploitation in Mamluke times corresponded with a clustering of population into fewer, larger villages, while it had been common for farmers during the Roman and Byzantine periods to maintain small hamlets and individual farmsteads close to the fields," Mr. Banning said. "If this is the case," he adds, "the Mamluke settlement-subsistence system may mark the transition from a Byzantine agricultural strategy to the strategy employed in the area by farmers during Ottoman and modern times."

Agricultural expansion

The overall picture that emerges of the historical exploitation of the Ziglab basin suggests that the earliest settled inhabitants of the area in the Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Ages lived in natural clearings away from the oak and pistachio forests, where they could have practiced small-scale grain cultivation without having to clear forested areas. Expansion into the heavily forested zones may have started in the Middle Bronze Age and the Iron Age, when the forests started to be cleared for agricultural use. In the Iron II period, simple irrigation and soil collection techniques may have been applied to fields in the bottoms of small wadis.

Extensive exploitation of the area using rock-cut aqueducts, dams and cisterns reached its peak in the Roman/Byzantine era, when intensive irrigated cultivation produced cash crops to support a large population. By the end of the Byzantine period, the area probably had less forest land than it does today. In the Umayyad and Mamluke periods, the tradition of subsistence agriculture was well established, and today the area exhibits almost no irrigated farming, in favour of rainfed subsistence farming.

The survey project was funded by a doctoral fellowship from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, and a W.F. Albright Fellowship from the American Schools of Oriental Research.

Ban on some imports draws mixed reactions

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The cabinet's recent decision banning imports of a number of commodities similar to those manufactured locally continues to draw mixed reactions from concerned Jordanian traders and industrialists.

Leaders of the business community in the country have generally welcomed the cabinet's decision describing it as a sincere step towards encouraging local industries.

They said that the decision would boost the country's productivity and will encourage finding new markets for local industrial products.

However, some businessmen believe that the local consumer would be the number one victim to such a decision since the quality of protected local commodities might not maintain their standard not to say that it might fall back.

The businessmen also believe that prices would go up prompted by the absence of foreign made commodities which create opportunities for creative competition.

Among others, chairman of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce, Mr. Hamdi Tabba, and the federation director general, Mr. Mohammad Al Tiji, argued that banning imports in principle clashes with the country's system of free economy and enterprise.

They both argue that imposing higher importation tariffs and taxes on foreign commodities similar to those produced locally would have been a much better decision to implement.

In a memorandum sent recently by Mr. Tabba to Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, the federation said: "Before the ban on foreign made commodities was ordered, the role of Jordanian industry should have been defined as to its contribution to the gross national product (GNP), its sources of raw materials and the role of Jordanian labourers in local industries."

The memorandum, carried by the daily Al Ra'i last week, said that "protectionism" should be linked to the role and efficiency of local industries in terms of producing a better quality at a lower price.

"Protectionism, in principle, will help safeguard a number of our successful industries which show promising signs of future improvement. But other unsuccessful industries, which are doomed to failure due to lack of administrative efficiency and planning, should not use protectionism as a means to cover up for their industrial fiasco," Mr. Tabba stressed.

Therefore, Jordanian industries should be classified according to their viability with protection granted to "only promising and successful industries," Mr. Tabba added.

Listing the chambers' requests, Mr. Tabba said that the Chambers of Commerce and the private sector, merchants should be given priority in marketing local commodities both on the domestic and international levels as import restrictions had minimised the private sector's role in importing similar foreign commodities.

In a recent interview, Mr. Tiji totally disagreed with the government's decision but he expressed hope that time will reveal whether local industries will live up to the public's expectations.

"For the moment, I can say that the quality and prices of the pro-

duced commodities will be at the consumer's expense. It remains to be seen whether these commodities will improve with respect to quality, price, value added to GNP and the industries' productivity to meet the market's demands," Mr. Tiji said.

Owner of a local juice factory voiced his gratitude over banning the imports of all kinds of juices except natural juice concentrates. The industrialist, who spoke on condition of anonymity said: "Our production capacity exceeds the market's demands and we are ready to export our products."

"Local competition from now on will be evident in our line of products since there are more than seven local juice companies. We will be competing for quality and we will maintain the same price as fixed by the Ministry of Supply," he added.

Snuck and similar juice concentrates were not included in the banned-list of imports since "there are no local companies to produce these commodities," Mr. George Khoury, owner of Khoury Supply Company which imports Snuck, told the Jordan Times.

However, the juice factory owner told the Jordan Times that "the imports of juice concentrates will never be banned since all local juice companies depend on their use in producing their final products."

Explaining further, the owner said: "Juice companies have to use a minimum of 25 per cent natural juice concentrates in their products according to specifications set by the ministry of trade and industry." He added that "no natural juice concentrate companies would be established now since the country does not have a large source of citrus fruits."

A recent press report indicated that a European country which does not have any citrus produces, imports oranges and lemons from the occupied West Bank of Jordan. The company develops the imported raw materials into natural juice concentrates and re-exports it to Jordan and other countries for their use by local soft drink companies.

Mr. Khoury commented on this report saying: "There are various issues beyond our control that impede us from manufacturing local natural juice concentrates although using West Bank oranges and lemons would minimise the Palestinian farmer's marketing problems."

Owners of local yeast factories said that the government's decision banning imports of foreign dry and paste yeast containers "was a good step."

"Generally speaking, our company did depend a lot on marketing yeast in Jordan. We concentrated our efforts on foreign markets, such as Saudi Arabia. Eventually, Jordanians will now have the chance to try our local yeast products," an industrialist said.

Another local paste factory ran an advertisement in the three Arabic dailies highlighting its produce of paste and spaghetti.

The government's decision on banning the imports of all kinds of spaghetti except those types which are not produced locally was very

much welcomed by the paste companies' marketing officials.

The wholesalers' opinion regarding the government's decision on banning a number of foreign imports was "shocking and unprecedented."

The other items which were also banned are: Small size (1.5-2 kilograms) washing machines, all types of chemical detergents, aluminium tin containers, cooking fat (extracted from dates), white and ordinary cement, matches, ready made fodder, plastic rugs, television antennas, brooms and brushes (except those that are not produced locally), tissue paper, wire brush (used for cleaning dishes), kerosene heaters, gas stoves (flat type with no oven), transparent glass cases, emission paints, artificial flowers and plants, school copybooks (except those used by university students for lectures) and tobacco and cigarettes (except those on special quota set by government).

Mr. Kazem Barg, a prominent businessman, commented that retailers will not be as much affected as the consumers.

"We will always find other items which we can import. But our concern is the consumer who will be forced to buy the local protected commodities since there will be no other choice," Mr. Barg said.

He said that the government's decision was too "stupid and unprecedented."

We (retailers) had no idea whatsoever that the cabinet intended to ban a number of commodities similar to those manufactured in Jordan. We heard the decision through the newspapers and other information media," Mr. Barg added.

A Jordanian housewife complained to the Jordan Times about a locally made "cleaner" which was sprayed on a glass table to turn it all bluish-grey and sticky.

"I hope that local detergent companies will take the issue of quality into consideration," Mrs. Rosemarie Saba said.

Another consumer, Mr. Salah Dajani said: "My only concern is the quality and price of items I consume."

An official at the Ministry of Trade and Industry told the Jordan Times that the ministry is considering the subject of raising the prices of all "protected" commodities.

The official who spoke on condition of anonymity said: "The ministry will soon raise the prices of commodities in order to encourage local industries to raise their product's quality."

Ministry of Trade and Industry Undersecretary Mohammad Al Saqqaf affirmed that locally produced commodities would maintain their good quality and will be available in sufficient quantities.

Mr. Saqqaf made it clear that the cabinet's decision regarding the prices of commodities given protection as unchanged, unless other decisions are issued about them by the ministry.

A Jordanian industrial observer believes that even if the ministry raises the prices of protected commodities, "their quality won't be improved." He explained that local industries will need a long time to be able to compete with foreign made commodities.

This implies that there will be no competition based on quality and price especially that local consumers have no other choices, but to consume what is locally produced," the observer stressed.

"No competition means no progress," he added.

ILO urged to pressure Israel to free 103 Palestinian labourers

By Hamadeh Fara'neh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A senior official at the General Federation for Palestinian Labourers (GFPL) has appealed to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to exert pressure on Israel to free 103 Palestinian labourers who have recently been arrested, detained or deported without trial by the Israeli occupation authorities since August 1983.

In a cable sent to ILO president, GFPL Secretary General Haidar Ibrahim said: "Many Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip have been subjected to house arrests without trial and for no valid reasons. Other Palestinian labourers and leaders of student movements have been placed under administrative detention with no trial or have been deported by the Israeli military authorities."

In his cable of appeal, Mr. Ibrahim listed the names and job description of each one of the 103 Palestinian labourers who have

been affected by the Israeli authorities' arbitrary and oppressive measures.

Mr. Ibrahim pointed out to ILO president that the Israeli occupation authorities are continuing to expand their oppressive administrative measures and deportation policies against Palestinians by imposing collective punishments such as ordering universities to close down or imposing curfews on Palestinian towns and villages as well as holding citizens under house arrests without trial and deporting Palestinians for no reason.

"We appeal for your urgent interferences and necessary contacts to prevent the deportation orders and to release all Palestinian labourers who have been detained and house arrested without trial," the GFPL's cable to ILO president said.

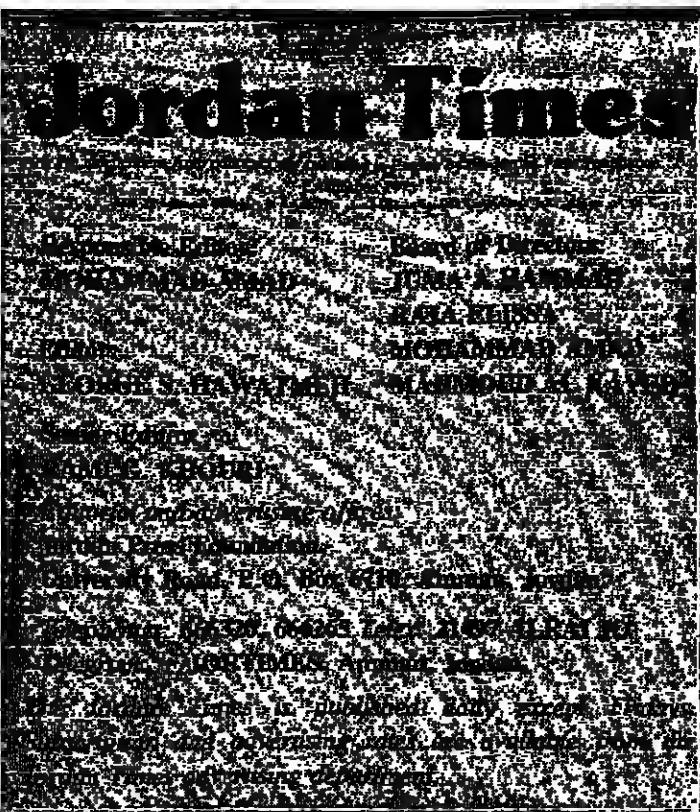
Mr. Aubert, citing the country's adherence to international laws and conventions, particularly the Geneva Convention of 1949 concerning Palestine, noted that there have been repeated violations of the convention by Israel.

Mr. Aubert pledged to bolster bilateral economic relations. Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Taher Kana'an, in a separate meeting with Mr. Aubert, briefed the Swiss minister on Israel's arbitrary measures carried out against Arab residents of the occupied territories.

King receives Swiss minister

(Continued from page 1)

also extend loans to Jordan to help the Kingdom implement projects planned under the 1986-1990 national development plan and increase technical assistance in all fields, the minister said.



Veto must not pass

THE U.S. veto of the U.N. Security Council draft resolution that criticised Israel's treatment of Palestinians under occupation is an ugly reminder of America's biased policies in the Middle East. It is yet another example of American double standards on the Palestinian issue, and not an act that would have undercut the ability of the Security Council to play a positive role in resolving problems, as Gen. Walters contended in casting his veto.

The draft resolution would have had the Security Council do no more than deplore "the repressive measures taken by Israel since April 4, against the civilian Palestinian population in the occupied territories, especially in the West Bank and Gaza", and call on the Israelis to stop all repressive measures, including deportation. Is it too much for the Americans to accept such language especially when their officials spoke against the Israeli measures against Palestinians not long after they were instituted last month? Or is it just an exercise in moral bankruptcy by the U.S. when dealing with the Palestinian issue as such?

The veto should not have come as a surprise to any of us really. Gen. Walters is a different person from the infamous Mrs. Kirkpatrick, it can be argued, but not when it comes to the east of vetoes in the U.N., especially where Israel is involved. What is indeed surprising and shocking about Friday's vote though is the abstention of those four countries on the council who are supposedly more neutral and understanding of the problems of Palestinians under occupation and everywhere, namely Britain, France, Denmark and Australia.

Sir John Thompson, the British representative, said in explaining his abstention that despite his country's "unhappiness about certain aspects of the conduct of the Israeli authorities", the text of the draft resolution was unsatisfactory to him. What "unhappiness" and the other words that he used mean in the context of an ugly occupation that has lasted for 18 years, we have no way of knowing. But for all we know this is hypocrisy and the double standards of the West and their height.

Our greatest fear about the attitudes and policies of the U.S. and some of its allies in the West has always been that these countries have almost forgotten the real problem in the Middle East. This is not the violence that erupts in the occupied territories between now and then, but why it happens. For the Americans and others to equate Arab and Israeli violence, when the Israelis are occupying Arab lands and forcing repression on their inhabitants, is exactly the same as forgetting there is an occupation and that resistance to it is a legitimate right.

Such forgetfulness, intended or otherwise, on the part of those countries is not only unfair; it is dangerous and contradicts every civilised norm on earth. This is why the U.S. veto on Friday must not come to pass as easily as the previous one did.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Another 'resolution' sought

THE ARAB countries now look to the U.N. Security Council to prove its credibility and to bring about justice to the Palestinians who have long been subjected to Israel's repressive measures.

The council has started discussing the Arab complaint about Israel's measures and the Israeli drive to evict the Palestinians from their homeland in total disregard to international laws.

The council members should be fully briefed on the situation in the occupied territories so that they can issue a resolution on this problem. They should be fully informed of Israel's acts of terrorism against the defenceless people under its occupation; and must take firm action to stop such actions.

The United States is reported threatening to resort to the veto to kill any resolution favouring the Arabs and their rights. But Washington in adopting this stand, is clearly giving encouragement to the aggressors and backing Israel's illegal measures and criminal actions, in flagrant violation of human rights and international laws.

The Security Council is called on to find proper means for ending Israel's practices against the Arabs and its illegal presence in their land. If, however, it fails to achieve this, the door will be open for more violence in the Middle East and there will be more sad events and more victims.

Al Dustour: Positive efforts

TUNISIAN PRIME Minister Mubammad Mzali has reportedly described a mission carried out by an Arab League mediation committee to end differences between Arab states as positive and successful. Mr. Mzali visited Amman among other Arab capitals with the members of the mediation team in a bid to create a suitable climate that will be conducive to the success of the coming Arab summit conference in Riyadh.

The prime minister's statement brought optimism to many people in this country who look to this mediation committee as a means of restoring solidarity among Arab countries.

Any improvement in relations between the Arabs would be considered an important step towards restoring their solidarity and unifying their stand and their ranks. The success of the mediation committee means a success for the Casablanca summit which formed the committee and entrusted it with the mission of reconciling Arab countries.

The success of the mission means Arab efforts will be crowned with success and open the way for the Riyadh summit in November.

If the summit is held, the Arab leaders will have a chance to review their countries issues in a serious manner and consider means of confronting threats and dangers.

Sawt Al Shaab: Arab differences

WE ARE delighted to hear the news about the initial success of an Arab League mediation committee that has been trying to end Arab differences and restore solidarity among Arab countries.

The initial success as reported by Tunisian Prime Minister Mubammad Mzali brings hope to the Arab peoples who have become fed up with failures and complaints to the U.N. Security Council about their problems and the dangers threatening them without avail.

The Arabs have sought help from many nations to assist in ending Israel's aggression but have not received any encouraging result to their endeavours. Arab leaders have been asking their friends in Europe and the United States to try to help solve their regional issues but their efforts did not attain success.

Finally the Arab countries became aware of the fact that unless they supported one another and came to the help of any Arab country facing aggression and danger, there can be no solution to their problems, and they will continue to face one failure after the another.

Ending differences among Arab countries means restoring solidarity and paving the ground for a successful summit in Riyadh.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Absolute protection granted to some industries

TWO WEEKS AGO, the government announced a decision to ban, with immediate effect, imports of a number of commodities similar to those manufactured and produced locally. No further import licences will be issued for any banned item. However the licences already issued will not be revoked. Thus the full impact of this decision will not be felt before the end of this year.

The list of banned commodities includes household metal equipment like washing machines, heaters and gas stoves; chemical products like detergents and emulsion paints and a host of other products like tissue paper, juices, copybooks, TV antennas etc.

The common factor among all these items is that they are all being produced locally in a

satisfactory quality and sufficient quantities to meet local demand.

Jordanian industrialists had always been pressing for stronger protection by raising customs duty even more. The reason is that they were never able to compete with foreign products in prices. They argue that the Japanese and other exporters were dumping the Jordanian market with their surplus products at prices well below cost. The reality may be that the strong Jordanian dinar is helping imports at the expense of local products.

There is no doubt that the manufacturing sector badly needs more protection to order to survive. Some observers, however, claim that the government's measures were too strong a medicine. Most of the

protected industries, they point out, are well established, and no longer in an infant stage. Such industries should be able to survive with any rate of customs duty above 40 per cent, which is the limit recommended by the economists of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

This percentage is quite adequate in our case because the value added in the form of wages, interest, rents and profits is not much higher than 40 per cent of the industrial output. At 40 per cent protection against imports, we are effectively protecting the local contributions of labour and capital at 100 per cent.

Some analysts are worried that banning imports, and the absence of competition, may result in the deterioration of

the quality of products. The industry, they expect, will have no more reasons to improve the quality or reduce the price.

It is true that the government has frozen the present prices of the protected goods in order to prevent the exploitation of the new situation at the expense of the consumers. The industry, nevertheless, may soon start to exert relentless pressure on the ministry of industry and trade to raise the price. The fully protected industries may also grow less interested in export markets, where it cannot be protected and must be competitive.

Having said this, I don't think that the government was after protecting these specific industries only for the sake of protection. The government is

very much worried about the depletion of the country's reserves of foreign exchange. Less imports, the government must have reasoned, may help in saving the foreign exchange for more pressing purposes.

In this respect, only industries with high value added and local contents deserve full protection. If the imported components of the local products are too high, protection will only help raising the business profits, but will not do much good to the economy or to the foreign exchange reserves.

If an industry depends heavily on imported inputs, the protection will only serve in transferring revenue of the treasury to the industrialists concerned. In this case the protected industry will become

more profitable to its owners but will be a burden on the consumers and the economy.

On the other hand, customs duty is a major source of revenue for the treasury. It is a big financial sacrifice to ban imports instead of raising the duty.

The measure taken by the government sets a new trend. Its goals are very important, but its side effects are far reaching. No one at this stage can pass a final judgement, but it is evident that the action has proved favourable to the industries concerned and unfavourable to the consumers and the treasury. Whether, on balance, it is good to the economy will depend largely on the future behaviour of the protected industries and the government's response to it.

Europeans declare war against growing threat of Zionism

By P.V. Vivekanand

"THERE IS no place for Zionism on earth", this is the slogan of a newly emerging group of activists known as Anti-Zionist League (AZL), which is believed to be based in Vienna, Austria.

The league describes its aims as: — Setting up a wide anti-Zionist front in Europe to "expose the policy of the Zionists and their plans and tactics";

— Exposing the "machinations of the 'friends of Zionism' in Europe, in the United Nations and other international bodies and unmask Zionist agents and their hirelings among the statesmen and public figures of Europe and other countries"; and

— Working for a ban on Zionist activities in all countries.

In the first edition of a brief monthly bulletin published in July, the league declared an all-out war against Zionism, accusing the Zionists of "brazenly interfering in the internal affairs of European states". Numerous Zionist organisations, in accordance with instructions issued by the World Jewish Organisation and the World Jewish Congress, are working within Britain, France, Austria, Belgium and the Netherlands to bolster pro-Israeli lobbies in these countries and recruiting "public figures and statesmen by coercion, bribery and bribery to support Israel," the bulletin says.

It points out that 14 new Zionist organisations sprang up in Europe during 1984 alone and "national interests are being increasingly sacrificed to the interests of Zionism." Further, numerous Israeli militant groups have been formed and are acting covertly in Austria, France and West Germany, "under the guise of combating anti-Semitism," the league says.

The Zionists, who dominate "practically all the mass media, impudently spread misinformation and propagate the doctrine of a 'great Israel', while concealing the scope and aims of their activities," it says.

The league cites a number of examples to evidence the growing threat of Zionism to Europe and voices alarm over the expanding network of Zionist-controlled groups in all levels — diplomatic, media and underground terror. Paris, London, Vienna, Rome, Madrid, Brussels, Amsterdam and Copenhagen have become venues of legal gatherings of various Zionist congresses, symposia and seminars, according to the league.

In a vehement attack on the Austrian government for hosting a session of the World Jewish Congress in January 1985, which was inaugurated by Chancellor Fred Sinowatz, the league says the gathering "impudently and shockingly interfered in the internal affairs of this neutral European country, humiliated its national dignity and insulted the Austrian nation and government."

The league was referring to a demand by the congress that Austrian Defence Minister Friedrich Friesenbacher be "punished" for meeting an ex-Nazi officer who had served time for his role in Hitler's war. The congress accused the minister of anti-Semitism and one of the conferees, Canadian whiskey millionaire Edgar Bronfman, demanded that the Austrian government make a formal apology for the action of its cabinet member.

Recalling that Dr. Sinowatz did in fact comply with the demand by conveying his apologies to the congress, which "in reality did not represent anyone," the league says, "One can only wonder at the inextinguishable patience of the Austrian government in yielding to the onslaught of the 'chosen people'."

"Here, one must recall that these 'chosen people' cold-bloodedly killed thousands of innocent Palestinians for which they were censured by Dr. Bruno Kreisky... a Jew by birth," AZL says. It adds that the former chancellor was "subjected to unbridled baiting by the Zionists and the Israeli

government" because of his criticism of the Zionist-engineered killings in the Middle East.

However, such events in Austria were only the tip of an iceberg, according to AZL.

"It cites the example of the Israeli ambassador to West Germany who 'permitted himself to dictate to his hosts what political course they should follow in the Middle East' in last August, AZL's reference is to a big hue and cry in Israel and repeated critical statements by the Israeli ambassador in Bonn of a statement by Juergen Muellemann, a senior official at the Bonn foreign ministry, who

braved the Zionist wrath and publicly said it was in the interests of West Germany to "expand cooperation with the Arab World. Muellemann was accused of anti-Semitism, as was the case with a number of other European officials who dared to criticise Israel or condemn Israeli policy."

The Zionists are also very much influential in French politics as they have been as back as 1967 when Charles de Gaulle was in power. De Gaulle tried to limit the "anti-national subversive espionage activities of the Zionists in France, which had become especially intensive after Israel's aggression against Egypt, Syria and Jordan," the league recalls. Immediately after a public criticism of Israel by de Gaulle, the Zionist media launched one of the most vehement attacks ever on the French national hero, "but," AZL says, "no voices cried out: 'How long will we permit our beloved country and its heroes to be humiliated? how long will we permit the pride of France to be slandered?'"

The Zionist influence in Paris became more evident recently when France only chose to make a token protest against Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin's defence of the Knesset earlier this year, that the French soldiers serving with the United Nations Truce Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) were the "biggest mongrels."

Moreover, French President Francois Mitterrand permitted an exhibition entitled: "The Land of Israel" to be held in Paris, and that too in one of the most prestigious halls, the Grand Palais, for which reservations had to be made years in advance, AZL points out.

The sole goal of the organisers of the exhibition, which displayed a number of scrolls, photographs, books, manuscripts and archaeological discoveries was to prove that the Zionists had "historical rights" to the land of Palestine. The exhibition was held when the Israeli occupation army was tightening its control over Lebanon, though a "scorched earth" policy against all those who stood on its way.

AZL expresses dismay and wonder at the fact that the exhibition was "an overt demonstration of the racist and expansionist ambitions of the Zionists who intend to create a 'great Israel' in the Middle East, between the Nile and Euphrates," but, "no-one raised a finger in protest against such an exhibition."

AZL accuses the Zionists of "hypocritical lamentations for the Jews' sufferings in the holocaust," and says acts of anti-Semitism are purposely organised with funds provided by Jewish millionaires around the world.

It cites as an example a bomb blast at a synagogue in Rue Copernicus in Paris in 1980 which killed four and injured 32, "we do not doubt in the least that the Israeli Mossad and the European Zionist Centre directed the attack," it says.

The attack, for which radical Arab elements were blamed by the European media, had ulterior political motives, including undermining Giscard d'Estaing's position in the presidential elections that followed, according to AZL. The Zionists sought to force the French president to revise his policy in the Middle East and soften his stand towards Israel, it says, "in the event of his non-

compliance, to defeat him in the elections" was the strategic goal of the attack.

It was necessary to maintain political tension within France for the Zionist ambitions to be fruitful and therefore the Zionist leadership and Mossad planned and carried out the bomb blast hoping to use the resultant French fury as a tool to influence public opinion and government policy.

AZL provides facts, figures and dates to prove its argument. It says Flato-Sharon, a French terrorist who fled the law, who was given sanctuary in Israel and later became a member of the Israeli Knesset, was the mastermind behind the actual training of Israeli terrorist agents in Europe. The process of preparing selected groups of terrorists fully trained in karate, judo and weaponry starts with a careful selection of young men and women from the Israeli army and the training period lasts, from one month to one and a half months, according to AZL. The trained terrorists are sent to various European countries where they are assigned to safeguard Zionist gatherings, synagogues and carry out acts of "revenge" against those who do not know to the Zionist schemes. AZL says the members of the terrorist group receive around \$1,500 in cash per month and \$1,200 to \$1,500 credited to their bank accounts in Israel during the "probationary period."

The day before the Copernicus street blast a group of Mossad officers stationed in European states held a special meeting to finalise the details of the attack, AZL says. Armaments and explosives were transported from Israel for the operation, it says.

While agents trained in Israel are sent out to take up assignments in Europe, others are trained in Austria, and the choice of candidates and their place of assignment is left to the Israeli secret service.

"At present two groups are functioning in Austrian territory," the league says. "The first group consists of volunteer militants headed by a certain Daniel Salzman. The second group of mercenaries was organised in 1982 and placed under the command of Epstein, an Austrian citizen who had undergone training in the Israeli army."

The Zionists have succeeded in placing extremist organisations of West Germany and Austria under their control and using them for "special operations." As a rule, the Zionists strive to have others carry out their provocations and carefully conceal their own involvement.

Another face of the Zionist quest for international supremacy is evident in the financial clout that the international Jewish community has acquired, says AZL. It refers to the "close-knit Zionist financial elite of bankers, often tied by intermarriage of convenience," as the "mightiest unification of world capital."

"It does not recognise any state borders, national sovereignty or any power except gold," AZL says. "One needs only to glance through the list of Jewish millionaires, the participants of the annual conferences which have been held in Jerusalem since 1967, to understand the extent of the impact of Zionist capital upon world policy," it adds.

The participants of these conferences are the representatives or owners of more than 650 international corporations and companies of which 350 are officially considered American, about 60 as British, 45 as West German, 40 as French, 16 as Canadian and 10 as Swedish. The others are from Italy, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Belgium, Argentina, South Africa, Spain and other countries of the "old and new world."

The monopolistic mergers of the Zionist capital do not tolerate any competition and sometime competitors are forced out of business by bankruptcy or "physical elimination," AZL points out that

while there are no instances of financial failure or bankruptcy of Jewish capital, almost every major European country can provide thousands of facts concerning the elimination of national banks and businesses.

In recent years, thousands of businesses went bankrupt in Britain, France and West Germany, and although "it would be unobjective to lay the blame for all these failures on Zionist capital... one will find either open or covert" Zionist role in forcing such failures, AZL says.

Drawing a comparison between the ancient practice by Zionist merchants of profiteering through cutting down the weight of gold coins, AZL says today's Zionists do "the same by the depreciation of securities, playing the market with different currency rates and other means." It points out that the record boost of the dollar was the result of high interest rates in the U.S., which in turn is set by Zionist capital.

Zionist capital is becoming master in Europe as it did in the U.S., the league says and predicts more and more European financial and material support for Israel as a result. "The money provided by the machinations of the Zionists supports not only Israel's political system but that of international Zionism as well."

The so-called Bilderberg meeting, where international giants like Rockefeller, Rothschild, Walenberg and Dreyfus as well as other "money bags of Europe" meet regularly, and the "tri-lateral commission" set up in 1973 by a group of leading bankers and businessmen, including Chase Manhattan Bank President David Rockefeller, are some of the examples of the Zionists' quest to maintain a leading role in world finances and at the same time protecting their own interests, according to AZL.

"The latest Zionist campaign is against the United Nations to discredit the world body, according to the league. It says a number of Zionist meetings, seminars and congresses are scheduled in cities like New York, Paris, London and Buenos Aires to "prove the validity" of U.N. resolution no. 3379 of 1975 which condemns Zionism as a form of racism and racial discrimination.

According to AZL, the aims of the new campaign are: — Suppressing the wave of world protests against the Zionist racial policy;

— Distracting world attention from Israel's continuing aggression in the Middle East; and

— Discrediting the United Nations as an "anti-Semitic gathering."

AZL, marking the 10th anniversary of U.N. resolution 3379, has declared its firm support for the resolution and says: "Zionism is synonymous with racism since: — 'It is for the continuation of genocide against the Palestinians, the destruction of Beirut, Tyre, Nabatiyeh and Sidon.' — 'It entails the use of cluster bombs against civilians and the bombing of Arab civilian and military hospitals.' — 'It advocates the forcible departure of millions of Arabs.' — 'It is synonymous with the racist state of Israel where discrimination flourishes and where even Jews are divided like commodities into first and second grade.' — 'It deprives the Arab population of all rights'; and — 'It means the so-called chosen people whose emissaries help strengthen Zionist positions in the economic and financial spheres of many European countries to the detriment of their national interests.'"

The only clue available to most people of AZL is that it took birth recently in the Austrian capital, where Israeli terror groups such as "Terror against Terror" and "Active Jewish Resistance", are also operating. "Terror Against Terror", which is known by its Hebrew acronym "TNT", regularly sends out letters of threats and "warnings" to politicians and journalists known to take a pro-Arab stand. Experts say that TNT's major stronghold outside Israel appears to be Vienna, where Zionist powers have always kept a firm grip on the authorities by constantly issuing reminders of the "murder of six million Jews in Nazi Germany and post-war Europe's moral responsibility towards the Jews."

The writer is a member of the Jordan Times staff

Communism and Liberation Catholic movement emerges as a political force in Italy

By Tony Austin

Reuters

RIMINI, Italy — A back-to-the-roots Catholic movement called Communio and Liberation has emerged as a force to be reckoned with in Italian life, with the support of the Pope, a wing of the country's largest political party and up to one million Italians.

Described as the Roman Catholic equivalent of Protestant revivalism, Communio and Liberation (CL) is a crusading champion of traditional church doctrine.

Its leaders endorse Pope John Paul's opposition to abortion, test tube fertilization and artificial family planning. The movement received a blessing from the Pope during its week-long annual meeting last month at this Adriatic seaside resort.

Unlike other conservative Catholic organisations, CL stresses public action to demonstrate its faith, rather than individual spiritual development.

In Italy it has set up more than 100 cultural centres in towns and villages and played a leading part in establishing student residences, self-financing cooperatives and job creation schemes.

It sends missionaries to Africa and Latin America and sponsors youth movements in West Germany, Poland, Ireland, Switzerland, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay and Uganda.

At the Rimini meeting, a crowd of 40,000 young adults clapped wildly then listened in rapt silence as Don Luigi Giussani, CL's founder and spiritual leader, rose to speak.

"You do well to applaud because I believe in what I say," declared Monsignor Giussani, a charismatic teacher who once persuaded an entire high school class to become priests.

In tacit recognition of CL's growing influence, both West German Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher and Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti accepted invitation to attend the gathering, and the movement won praise from Cardinal John O'Connor, the Archbishop of New York.

"There is nothing in the United States like this," O'Connor told a news conference, adding that he would send a delegation to study how the movement could be started in his diocese.

"CL combines deep spiritual roots with great intellectual capacity. With more Christian movements in the U.S. but none has quite the same capacity as CL," he said.

Don Giussani, 63, a plain-spoken but persuasive Lombard cleric, founded CL as a student youth movement in 1954 after overhearing a group of students complaining that Christianity meant no more than a set of rules that had to be obeyed.

"He suddenly realised that, to most Italian young people, the Christian faith had lost its attraction as the fascinating centre of their lives," CL theologian, Rocco Buttiglione told Reuters in an interview.

The loosely-structured movement now has up to one million adherents in Italy and several thousand abroad, and is considered an important influence within Italy's Christian Democratic

Party, political analysts said. Roberto Formigoni, 38, leader of the Popular Movement, the CL's political arm, received almost half a million preferential votes in his election to the European Parliament as a Christian Democratic candidate last year.

Other popular movement candidates made a major contribution to the Christian Democrats' unexpected success in local government elections last May.

Buttiglione said the CL leaned towards the Christian Democrats because of their traditional links with the church but it had supporters also in other parties.

"In the past our opponents said we would be manipulated by the DC (Christian Democrats). Now they are accusing us of trying to manipulate the party," Buttiglione said. "Neither is true, because we do not wholly identify with the aims of this or any other party."

CL press spokesman Gianni Varani said the movement had no centralised power structure and relied for finance on contributions by a hard-core fraternity of about 10,000 people.

Formigoni told Reuters he was convinced the religious element in national politics, after years of previous decline, would expand between now and the year 2000.

"I am taking no bets on my own political future," said Formigoni, a forceful speaker.

"But I am certain this movement, if it keeps true to its origins, will go further in our country," he said. "Christianity is not an event of the past. It can work in the most sophisticated technological society."

Deep faith: Prophets and profits spur search for oil by Evangelicals, who are hoping for a Second Coming

By George Getschow

ATLTI, Israel — Moses, says the Bible, ascended Mount Nebo, gazed upon the promised land and blessed the 12 sons of Jacob. The land given to Zebulun and Issachar would contain "treasures hid in the sand." Asher's land would be so bountiful that he would "dip his feet in oil."

Today Moses' ancient prophecies in Deuteronomy 33 have inspired one of the biggest treasure hunts of all time. Hundreds of evangelical Christians from America's Bible Belt are investing millions of dollars here in hopes of finding the world's largest oil deposit.

Instead of seismographic studies, evangelical oil men rely on old maps of ancient tribal lands and on readings of the scriptures. When they run into drilling problems that would drive most Texas wildcaters to drink, they turn to prayer. And to help raise drilling funds, they generally call on big-name evangelical ministers rather than Wall Street brokers to tout their ventures.

Prayers for project

"I just thank the Lord and pray for this project because it could revolutionize the fulfillment of Bible prophecy," Pat Roberts, the host of Christian Broadcasting Network's "700 Club," told his television audience, after being advised by one evangelical oil man that within days his drills would tap into "the largest oil field ever discovered."

Alas, instead of discovering oil, the drills got hopelessly stuck 21,428 feet below the Holy Land and abandoned their well two years ago. Today, despite all the prayers of the investors, the \$13 million Asher-Atil No. 1 appears to be just another of many dry holes drilled by evangelical oil men in Israel. These divinely inspired ventures are still waiting for a miracle to happen. And the oil men and their backers have no doubt that it will.

"It will be a Red Sea miracle," says Harris "Koop" Darcy, a Houston geologist who has invested about \$100,000 in Asher-Atil 1. "There's so much junk in the hole that it's probably physically impossible to save it, but I believe that God will miraculously

open the well and it will just start flowing on its own. It will be done His way and in His time."

Among those who hope Mr. Darcy is right is the state of Israel. It offers to put up 44 cents for each \$1 invested by the evangelicals or other outsiders and sells the drilling licenses cheaply in return of 12 1/2 per cent royalties.

Despite the lack of success so far, "there are still tons of people who would like to get in," says Bob Rogers, the manager of an evangelical radio station in Kentucky. Mr. Rogers organized a group of Kentucky evangelicals who sank several hundred thousand dollars into the Asher-Atil well, which was drilled at the place where a Houston wildcatter believes Asher dipped his foot in oil.

Just where Asher left his footprint is something that evangelical oil men can't seem to agree on. The Houston wildcatter, Andy SoRelle, known as the Moses of the Asher-Atil project, chose a spot on the Mediterranean coast, 12 miles north of the Shimon-Ibith, or "the River of the Crocodiles." Wesley Hancock of San Francisco says the correct spot is clearly about six miles north of Atil along the base of Mount Carmel, in the region where he drilled two dry holes 25 years ago.

"Scripturally speaking, SoRelle and Hancock both drilled in the wrong places," says another evangelical oil man, 73-year-old Clifford Ford, who is certain that the oil doesn't lie in the land of Asher at all but in the lands of Zebulun and Issachar. Moses, after all, prophesied that these sons of Jacob would "suck of the abundance of the seas," Mr. Ford says, "and there's a big difference between just dipping your foot in oil and sucking an abundance of it out of the sea."

Harold "Hayseed" Stephens, a stocky evangelical preacher and oil man from Weatherford, Texas, says the Scriptures revealed to him that the world's largest oil deposit isn't in the tribal lands but in the ancient valley of Siddim, where, according to the book of Genesis, the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fell into "bitumen pits" while fleeing invaders. "That's just the way it was in East Texas before the big fields were discovered," only instead of kings, cattle fell into them, Mr. Stephens says.

Nevertheless, Mr. Stephens and his partners are currently stuck at the bottom of a huge salt dome 5,000 feet below the old cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and are calling evangelicals everywhere to help rescue their well, Har Sodom No. 1. Meanwhile, Mr. Stephens is trying to raise money by selling some of his Texas gas wells that are emblazoned with pictures of drilling rigs sprouting out of an open Bible.

To some scholars, the scramble for oil in Israel is just another modern-day example of an age-old problem: Faith run amok. "What we have here," says Pauls Hanson of the Harvard Divinity School, "is a perversion of the Holy Scripture into some kind of treasure hunt. You can interpret the Bible any way you want, but it becomes very abusive when it leads people to do rash things—to declare war, to throw away their life savings and to drill oil wells in Israel. All too often, these prophetic projects become get-rich schemes for their promoters."

Some state regulators think so, too, and have taken steps to stop Bible-based drilling ventures from floating securities in their states.

"But securities regulators don't deal with or understand biblical prophecies, and they automatically assume that anything based on it has to be a fraud," says Leo Gilman, a Tampa, Fla., accountant who has invested in the search for oil in Israel. Another Florida investor, Ed McGrath, says he tithes 10 per cent of his earnings from his real-estate business to various evangelical church programs, and he considers his investment in Israel tithing, too. "It's a spiritual investment, not a money investment."

A flag lowered

Similarly, Denver oil man Gilman Hill says he relied on the Lord to make all his major drilling decisions, including the choice of Mount Carmel as the site of his Eljah No. 1 well. Still, the wildcatter ran out of money after spending \$3.5 million that he had earned from oil and gas leases in Utah. He plugged the well and lowered a giant flag flapping atop Mount Carmel that read, "God loves Israel and I do too."

Now Mr. Hill is reentering Eljah 1 and drilling another well to

hless Israel and, like the prophet Eljah, "proclaim the glory of God to His people." If he finds oil, Mr. Hill says, he will give most of the profits to Israel "for His chosen people."

To Mr. Hill and other believers, nothing short of the Second Coming is at stake. A mammoth oil discovery, they say, will trigger a chain of climatic events: Israel will become "blessed above nations," Russian and Arab troops will invade Israel to seize the oil and, as mankind is about to be destroyed, Jesus will return and establish a new kingdom on earth with its capital in Jerusalem.

"The winds of Armageddon are already blowing," says Mike Evans, the evangelical TV preacher whose Texas-based organization, Lovers of Israel, collects "major contributions" from Texas oil men. "There's a sense of urgency in the search for oil because evangelicals believe it will affect the destiny of the world."

Of course, some evangelicals simply want to get rich. "There are some people who thought, 'What better place to put my investment than in an oil well in the Promised Land?'" says the Rev. Jim Letizia of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., who invested \$6,500 in the Asher-Atil well. "If any place is going to get wealthy," they thought, "it's Israel. After all, the prophecies forecast it."

The conversion factor But most evangelicals who have helped finance the search seem to be motivated by the prophecies. Says Dr. James Mullis, a dentist in Valdosta, Ga., who has invested more than \$30,000 in three evangelical drilling partnerships: "We believe that when the oil comes in, Jesus will return and the Jews will turn back to God in fulfillment of prophecy."

And Ethyle Franklin of Franklin, Ky., a 76-year-old widow who borrowed \$2,000 to "bless Israel," says she has been praying day and night for a gusher because "oil will anoint the chosen people and they'll become believers" in Jesus.

Israel hasn't taken up the Christian cross. But the Israeli government, after itself spending \$150 million drilling dozens of dry holes over the past decade and then giving up, joins the evangelicals in hoping for a miracle. "Most of the people drilling here

now are the ones who believe in miracles, and a lot of us think that's what it would take to make a major strike here," says Lee Picard, an 85-year-old geologist and government adviser. "But if Jesus could change water into wine, maybe the Christians can find oil."

The Lord actually "changed salt water into oil" in a well back home in Houston, says Mr. SoRelle, the 65-year-old Moses of the Asher project. But he adds that that was nothing compared with the many miracles He has performed here at Atil. "There were 15 times we were hopelessly stuck and it seemed impossible to go any deeper," Mr. SoRelle says, "but we would grab hands and pray and the Lord would miraculously open the well." At one point, for example, the drillers discovered they had inadvertently bought a drill bit that was wider than the hole. "It went down by faith," Mr. SoRelle says.

Euphoria and despair

At 20,500 feet, Asher's geologists thought they had hit pay dirt: A giant, 60-square-mile limestone structure that yielded traces of oil. Hallelujahs echoed across the Bible Belt. As drillers hastily equipped the well with high-pressure blowout valves to handle the impending gusher, believers back home chartered jets to be on hand for the historic occasion.

The evangelicals' euphoria, however, quickly turned to despair when the drills lost four pieces of drill pipe, 120 feet long all told, and couldn't come up with a miracle to get them out. "It gave us all an empty feeling," says Larry Napier, a Nashville preacher who represents several large investor groups — mostly "poor churchfolk," he says, from Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky, Georgia and Florida — that own 28 per cent of the Asher project. Like many other believers, Mr. Napier is convinced that the well's problems are "the work of the devil" trying to prevent "the most significant event in history, an event that could lead to the Second Coming."

But with so much at stake, the faithful weren't about to accept defeat. Mr. Napier, Mr. SoRelle and other leaders of the Asher project decided not only to redrill the Asher-Atil well but also to acquire three other licenses cov-

ering 200,000 acres, nearly all of the tribal lands where, in the evangelicals' view, oil's presence was prophesied by Moses. But because many of the "poor churchfolk" had little left to give, the leaders decided last year to acquire, and sell shares in, a previously moribund Utah penny-stock company called Ford Oil & Development Inc., which put up \$200,000 for exploration and agreed to raise \$20 million more for development.

Book outsells Bible

Evangelicals were urged to buy Ford Oil stock at church revivals and on religious radio broadcasts. Then, earlier this year, the company conducted its first annual meeting at a three-day "prophecy conference" in Lakeland, Fla., where the faithful heard sermons about the oil prophecies. The speakers included the Rev. Jim Spillman, whose book about the prophecies, "The Great Treasure Hunt," outsold the Bible at the meeting. Stockbrokers were on hand to take orders for shares, and evangelical radio stations again made pitches.

Jim Spillman and other experts of biblical prophecy believe they have found treasure beyond any person's wildest expectations, proclaimed an evangelical radio station in Alabama. It invited listeners to join the "many ministries" already in the drilling venture and provided the telephone number of a stockbroker and "fellow believer," Mike Shaw, of Sarasota, Fla. Hundreds of believers did buy. In over-the-counter trading, the stock climbed from a low of two cents a share to a high of 62 cents. Its current bid price is 10 cents a share.

"The Great Treasure Hunt" offers elaborate scriptural evidence that treasures lie in the tribal lands of Asher, Zebulun, Issachar, Ephraim and Manasseh. (Among the evidence: Moses' saying of Asher, "Thy shoes shall be iron and brass..." metals used in drilling rigs.) Securities regulators in Massachusetts and California, however, reached a different conclusion.

They suspected that Ford Oil was just another slick penny-stock promotion out to fleece the faithful, so they outlawed sale of the stock in their states. (Similar ac-

tions have been taken in the past by other state regulators against at least two other Bible-based oil ventures.) Their skepticism was heightened by the fact that the company, which by its own account had no assets or cash flow when it offered stock, claimed it could find oil using scriptural interpretation rather than orthodox methods of exploration.

Believers 'encouraged'

But the regulators' actions "only stirred up and encouraged believers to put more money in," according to Jerry Hurst, a Clearwater, Fla., pastor who hasn't invested himself. Mr. Shaw, the stockbroker, says that not one of his clients has "lost faith in the stock."

It is unclear just where the proceeds from the offering have gone. Mr. SoRelle says he "split off" from Ford Oil after a "power struggle" in which "they tried to pull the rug out from under me." Other than the initial \$200,000, he says, he hasn't collected a penny from the company and has been busy raising drilling funds elsewhere. "What has happened to the millions of dollars that have passed hands through the trading of this stock is not yet known," Massachusetts regulators said in a press release. "This is precisely what we are currently investigating."

Ford Oil officials haven't answered reporters' telephone calls, but it is known that they drilled a dry well in Oklahoma and that earlier this month they bought some producing properties in Guadalupe County, Texas, for 4.1 million shares of Ford Oil stock. According to a few investors and brokers, Ford Oil hopes to drill a major well in Israel with any proceeds from the Oklahoma and Guadalupe County ventures.

In Israel, meanwhile, Jackie Sherman says he is "counting on the Christians" to find the money somewhere. A Jewish geologist who works for "just about all the believers in Israel" and has watched "busloads of evangelicals" flock to the wells to fast and pray, Mr. Sherman says that no drilling is going on at the moment and that he hasn't collected a paycheck in months.

Yet he says he hasn't lost faith in the faithful. "The most important things ever done in the world have always been done by some crazy pioneers, and it's the same way with the Christians," he says. "These are people who genuinely believe in biblical prophecy with all their hearts and souls and are going all out to fulfill it. I'm not a believer myself, but I certainly admire them for not letting all the doomsters stand in their way — Wall Street Journal."

World Court hears Nicaragua vs. U.S.

By Abner Katzman

Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — Nicaragua went before the World Court Thursday to argue the country is suffering U.S.-sponsored aggression.

Nicaragua's chief lawyer, Harvard Law School professor Abram Chayes, said he will present witnesses ranging from Nicaraguan officials to a former CIA analyst. The United States is boycotting the proceedings and has charged Nicaragua is using the court for propaganda.

Chayes said that despite the U.S. boycott, Nicaragua still had to prove its case, and he said he expected a favorable opinion from the court by the end of the year. However, a court spokesman, who insisted on anonymity, indicated such a quick decision was unlikely.

Chayes, a U.S. State Department legal advisor under President John F. Kennedy, said a favorable opinion would buttress international support for Nicaragua and undermine U.S. President Ronald Reagan's policy toward it.

Nicaragua has claimed \$350 million in property damage and Chayes said he expected the court to rule on that issue next year.

The Nicaraguan government has claimed before the court, formally known as the International Court of Justice, that the U.S. government is waging "armed attacks" to destabilize it. The attacks, Nicaragua claims, include the mining of its harbors and support for Contra rebels.

Chayes told the Associated Press Nicaragua's strategy will be to substantiate its claims of casualties and damage to Nicaraguan property and the economy.

Among Nicaragua's witnesses will be Finance Minister William Huper and deputy Interior Minister Luis Carrion, who will testify about overall economic damage. The other witnesses, according to Chayes, will be former CIA intelligence analyst David MacMichael and human rights researcher Michael Glennon.

MacMichael was under contract to the CIA from 1981-83, but left the agency after disputing U.S. claims of Nicaraguan support for the Salvadoran rebels. He will testify there is no evidence to support such claims, according to Chayes.

Glennon is a professor of international law at the University of Cincinnati.

Whatever the final court ruling on Nicaragua's financial claims or its petition for a halt to alleged U.S.-sponsored aggression, the 16-judge judicial arm of the United Nations has no power of enforcement.

"Though unenforceable, it (a favorable ruling) will have an impact on the political context in which these issues will be resolved," Chayes told reporters in New York City on last Wednesday. "The Reagan administration needs to sustain its Central American policies in Congress."

"We say the United States organized and controlled this activity," said Chayes. "And not merely supported indigenous rebels, as in Afghanistan."

At a Wednesday news conference in the Nicaraguan embassy in Washington, Chayes also asserted that despite the October 1984 congressional cutoff of military funding for the Contra rebel forces, the U.S. government has continued to control the Contras' war against the Sandinista government.

He said the U.S. government has provided the rebels with logistical help and intelligence information on government troop movements, collected by U.S. reconnaissance flights.

In May 1984, a month after Nicaragua filed its case, the World Court issued an interim ruling calling on the United States to "refrain from any military or paramilitary actions" in Nicaragua.

The United States pulled out of the proceedings last January, two months after the court overruled U.S. counterclaims that the Nicaraguan complaint did not fall within court jurisdiction.

At the time, U.S. State Department spokesman Alan Romberg claimed the Nicaraguan situation presented political questions "that under the United Nations charter are not intended for the World Court," but should be settled through diplomatic means.

Nicaragua filed its case on April 9, 1984, and the United States anticipated it by announcing it would not recognize World Court jurisdiction in Central American disputes for a two-year period.

Unsuccessful U.S. challenges of court jurisdiction in the case drew a rare public tally from then-president of the court Tasilo Olavale Elias of Nigeria, who told the Associated Press in December that "a state that defies the court will not get away with it."

Austria holds wine festival

By Stephanie Nebelhay
Reuter

EISENSTADT, Austria — With people sampling wines at colorful outdoor stands and eating sausages, the traditional wine festival in this baroque town in eastern Austria resembled those held every September.

But for the first time since various Austrian wines around the world were found to be contaminated, the week-long celebration in Burgenland province ending last Sunday was advertised as "the festival of 1,000 wines — unadulterated and pure."

The slogan aimed to reassure those attending that vintages sold did not contain diethylene glycol, a toxic anti-freeze additive which had been widely used as an inexpensive wine sweetener.

The scandal, which broke in July, halted wine exports and damaged Austria's reputation abroad for quality goods.

Of the 57 wine-growers, merchants and chemists detained so far in connection with the scandal, 21 came from the Burgenland province, police said. The region, which borders on Hungary, produces one-third of all Austrian wine.

To participate in the festival, wine-growers had to allow inspectors to chemically test their wines and then had to swear before a public notary the wines were

pure. Festival organizer Paul Wolf said there were 39 wine-tasting stands operated by regional wine-growers and merchants. He opened a thick notebook with documents certifying all wines had passed inspection.

"I had to pay 390 schillings (20 dollars) for each of my 20 wines to be tested," said wine-grower Mathias Wagner as he served a glass of dry white riesling to a thirsty customer during the festival.

Wagner and other wine-growers interviewed at the festival expressed concern about the scandal's effects and said consumers' faith in Austrian wines had to be restored.

But they said a new wine control law passed by parliament last month was bureaucratic and too harsh on honest producers.

The law, which sets up a complex system for checking and labeling wines similar to the French "Appellation Controllee," goes into effect next month for Austria's 53,000 wine-growers.

Bottles will have to state the origin, alcohol and sugar content of the wines, and its category — dry, medium or sweet. Maximum bottle size for high-quality wines will be 0.75 litres and a numbered inspection stamp must be stuck over each cork.

"It will surely be costly for every wine business," said Josef Kugler, whose family operation produces

more than 30,000 litres of wine a year. "We will have to number each bottle."

"Many wine-growers' businesses will be threatened," said another producer. "But I don't think they will close up shop."

Elfriede and Johannes Holler, wine-growers from the nearby village of Rust, said solidarity was vital for industry morale.

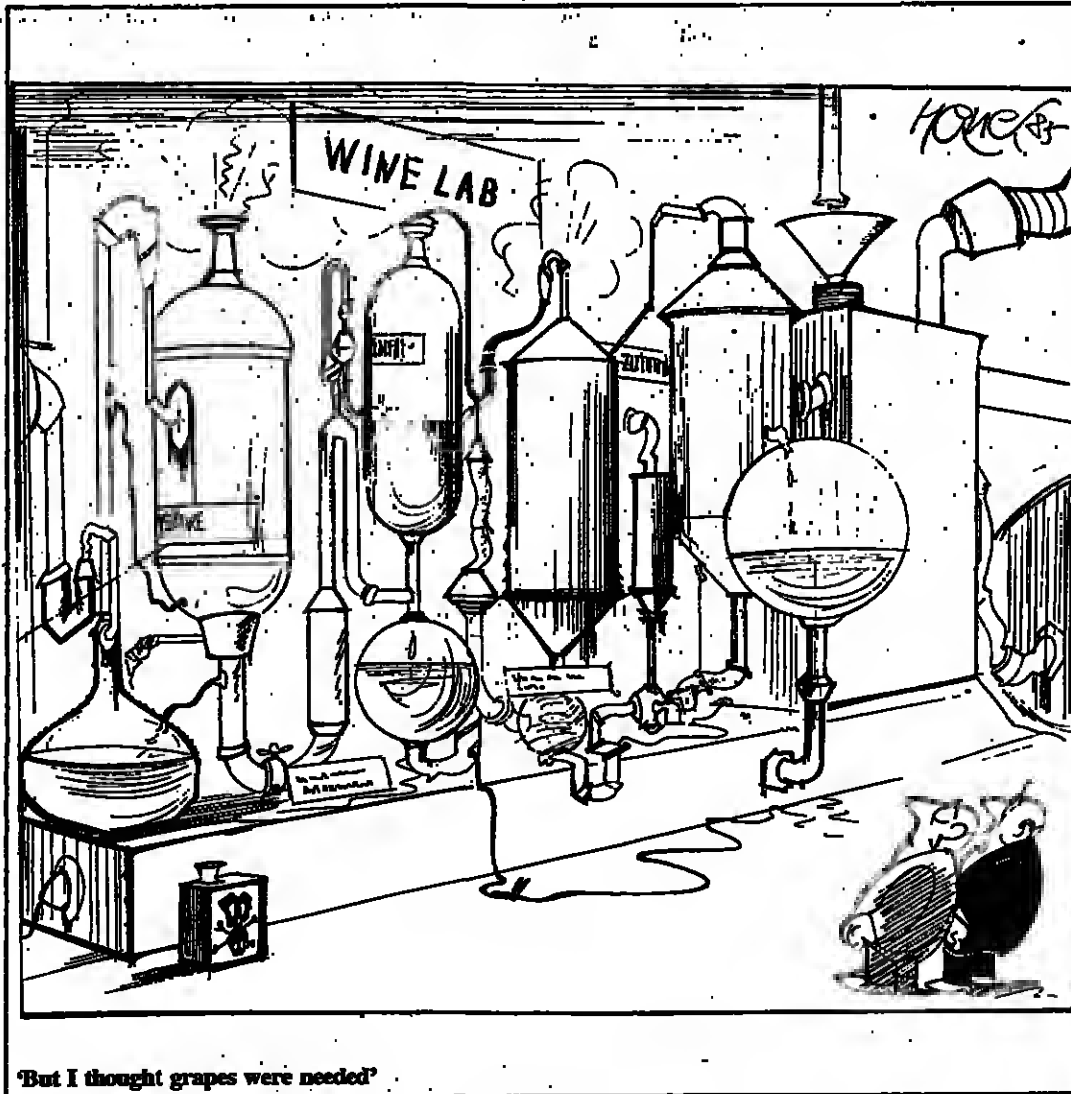
"Now it is important that we wine-growers stick together," said Elfriede Holler. "The scandal is such a shame — we really have one of the best wine-growing areas."

The Hollers, who participated in the festival for the first time, did a brisk business.

Especially popular was their "Trockenbeerenauslese Weissburgunder 1981," a pinot blanc awarded a gold medal at the 1985 Bordeaux "Vin-Expo," an international wine contest, for being the best of 700 wines.

Johannes Holler said the firm exported 100,000 bottles of wine to West Germany last year, and a combined 50,000 bottles to other European nations and the United States.

"We've received letters from buyers in Belgium and the United States saying they were still interested in importing Austrian wines," Elfriede Holler said. "But they want to wait a bit until the scandal blows over."



"But I thought grapes were needed"

Britain declares war on drugs as tide hits slums and mansions

By Mark S. Smith
Associated Press

LONDON — Britons used to think of drug abuse as an American problem. Or one for the Third World.

No longer. In recent months, as heroin abuse has multiplied and claimed victims ranging from a 14-year-old child of Liverpool's slums to the wife of a nobleman, the British have awakened to a drug problem. A parliamentary committee has called "the most serious peacetime threat to our national well-being."

An anti-drug TV publicity blitz has been launched, new laws and funds have been swung into the fight against the pusher and there have been calls to bring in the armed forces to protect Britain from drug smugglers.

Princess Diana has joined the war against drug abuse, appearing on a British Broadcasting Corp.

(BBC) series whose title urges young people to "just say no." So has Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Not known for her generosity with taxpayers' money, she promised to deliver whatever resources are necessary to halt the drug menace.

And she warned pushers: "We are after you. The pursuit will be relentless... we shall make life not worth living."

But the magnitude of the problem is immense — and growing fast.

Just-published figures for last year show heroin seizures in Britain have quadrupled in three years, from 93.4 kilograms in 1981 to 361.6 in 1984. Last year, the number of under-17s convicted of drug offenses was up by more than 16 per cent.

The number of addicts registered for state treatment programmes jumped 20 per cent last year to 12,489. But that figure is widely believed to be a fraction of



Margaret Thatcher

the true number. Police generally multiply by 10 — suggesting that one in every 5,000 Britons is addicted.

The figures provide clear confirmation — if confirmation were needed — that drug misuse is a major social problem in this country.

Home Office Minister David Mellor said.

But few things have concentrated British minds more on the drug problem than a pair of highly publicized tragedies in the past year.

Last December, a coroner's court in London heard how Lady Gormanston, wife of the top-ranking English Viscount of Ireland, went to a party, snuffed a mixture of cocaine and heroin, began vomiting and choked to death. She was 29 and a mother of two.

On July 30, a 14-year-old boy from Liverpool's Toxteth slum district, Jason Fitzsimmons, bought a lethal drug cocktail containing heroin just few minutes' walk from his home. After swallowing it, he slipped into a coma and died four days later.

Those were just two among scores of stories that have hit Britain's front pages, in which the victims have ranged from the high to the

low boro.

Another infamous incident involved the Marquess of Blandford, 29-year-old son of the Duke of Marlborough. He entered a drug treatment programme this spring after burgling a pharmacy to satisfy his heroin habit.

The Daily Express, in a special series, asked whether Britain was bringing up a "wasted generation."

In May, after a 10-day fact-finding trip in America, a committee of British lawmakers warned that unless prompt action is taken, "Britain and Europe stand to inherit the American drug problem in less than five years."

The report recommended that the army, navy and air force be brought in to help protect Britain's borders from drug smugglers. "We see this as the most serious peacetime threat to our national well-being," it said.

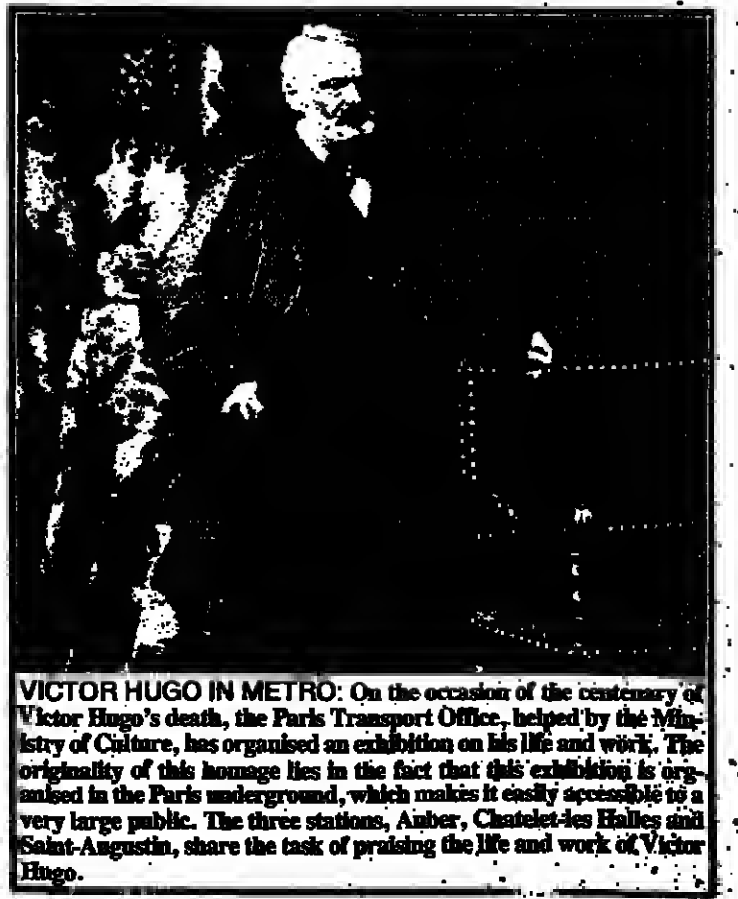
Some steps have been taken. Home Secretary Leon Brittan

announced 7 million pounds (\$9.8 million) in new funds had been committed to the fight against drugs and named a top Scotland Yard anti-terrorist officer, Colin Hewitt, to head the new national drugs intelligence unit.

Some 200 more officers have been added to the customs department, and local police forces across Britain have been beefing up their drug enforcement divisions.

Meanwhile, parliament has moved to give police powers to seize laundered money from the drug trade. New laws have taken effect to combat glue-sniffing, another rising problem, by making shop keepers criminally liable if they knowingly sell solvents to addicts.

The government also announced a new 2 million pound (\$2.8 million) educational campaign, featuring television commercials, films and posters.



VICTOR HUGO IN METRO: On the occasion of the centenary of Victor Hugo's death, the Paris Transport Office, helped by the Ministry of Culture, has organised an exhibition on his life and work. The originality of this homage lies in the fact that this exhibition is organised in the Paris underground, which makes it easily accessible to a very large public. The three stations, Anber, Chatelet-Les Halles and Saint-Augustin, share the task of praising the life and work of Victor Hugo.

Iraq sacks soccer coach

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq has sacked its national soccer coach Akram Alamed Salaman just two weeks before a vital World Cup qualifying tie with the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Baghdad newspapers reported Saturday.

Iraq, crowned Arab Champions at last month's pan-Arab Games in Morocco, plays the first of its Asian Group I finals against the UAE in Dubai on Sept. 20, with the winner over the two legs meeting Bahrain or Syria for a place in next summer's finals in Mexico.

The surprise sacking came after the national squad, widely tipped to clinch the Mexico slot, lost 3-1 and 2-0 in friendly ties against Saudi Arabia during a three-week training camp in the kingdom.

The Iraqis beat Saudi Arabia — knocked out of the World Cup by the UAE — in the semi-finals of the Morocco tournament.

The Iraqi Football Association.

chaired by the eldest son of President Saddam Hussein, announced the move after an extraordinary meeting following the Saudi visit, the newspapers said. They gave no reasons for Salaman's dismissal.

The association named Watheq Naji as the new coach, they added.

Salaman had been appointed coach just a year ago, when Ammu Baba was sacked following a disastrous performance at last summer's Los Angeles Olympics where Iraq lost to Cameroon and Yugoslavia and managed only a 1-1 draw with Canada.

Iraq pulled out of last December's Asian Soccer Finals in Singapore — a tournament it won in 1982 — saying its squad was unfit because of injuries suffered in Los Angeles.

It scrapped its entire league programme in February, less than half way through the season, to allow the national squad to concentrate on the road to Mexico.

But despite the intensive preparations Iraq barely scraped into the group final over Qatar after beating the Qataris 2-1 in the final match of the qualifying rounds.

The Iraqis, barred from playing in Iraq because of the five-year-old war with Iran, met the UAE in the second leg of their final in Taif, Saudi Arabia, on Sept. 27.

Bahrain and Syria drew 1-1 in their first leg in Bahrain eight days ago and meet again in Damascus on Sept. 20.

Prost claims pole position in Belgian Grand Prix

FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium (R) — World motor racing championship leader Alain Prost of France retained pole position for Sunday's Belgian Grand Prix with another commanding performance in final practice Saturday.

Prost allowed Italian rival Michele Alboreto a brief moment of glory at the head of the field before regaining control with a punishing lap of one minute 55.306 seconds (216.676 KPH) in his McLaren.

Prost's effort was more than a second faster than the pace-setting time he set on the SPA-Francorchamps circuit Friday and he said later he might have gone even faster.

"I could have gone at least a second quicker for sure but I had to lift off at Eau Rouge because of the yellow flags and smoke," he said.

Flag marshals at the tricky corner had gone into action when the arrows of Austrian Gerhard Berger suffered an engine failure.

Prost has occupied pole position this season only at last month's Austrian Grand Prix.

He went on to win the race, one of five 1985 triumphs which has taken him a valuable 12 points ahead of Alboreto in the championship.

Alboreto dominated briefly on his first run on qualifying tyres but his hopes of improving on his second run were spoiled by slower cars in his way.

"McLaren still looks to be the strongest car for the race," admitted the Ferrari driver, who has only four races left in which to catch Prost.

Brazilian duo Ayrton Senna and Nelson Piquet split Prost and Alboreto in the final reckoning.



German Formula 1 racing driver Stefan Bellof, 27, died in a crash last week during practice for Sunday's Belgian Grand Prix (DaD photo).

Europe gains on U.S. in Ryder Cup

SUTTON COLDFIELD, England (R) — Europe's golfers clawed back to within a point of the United States by winning two and drawing one of the four fourball matches in the Ryder Cup at The Belfry Friday.

After the U.S. team had taken a 3-1 lead, in the morning four-

somes, the Europeans staged an afternoon surge led by Spain's Severiano Ballesteros and Paul Way of Britain. At the end of the first day the U.S. led by 4½ to 3½.

Four more fourballs Saturday morning and four foursomes in the afternoon will be followed by the 12 concluding singles matches on

Sunday in a competition the Americans have won 21 times in 25 meetings and not lost since 1957.

Way, who played so well in the last match in 1983 when Europe lost by just one point in Florida, capped a fine match in partnership with Ian Woosnam.

FISA says South African race still on

FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium (R) — The South African Grand Prix motor race at Kyalami on Oct. 19 will go ahead as planned, Jean-Marie Balestre, President of the International Motor Sport Federation (FISA), told a press

conference Saturday.

The decision to go ahead with the race comes in the face of mounting pressure from governments to have it called off. France, Brazil, Sweden and Finland have all called on FISA to cancel the event.

Renault, the French car company, announced two days ago it would not be sending a team to South Africa.

Balestre confirmed the world championship race at Kyalami would be held when he read out a statement signed by International

Automobile Federation (FIA) President Paul Menetrier. FISA is the sporting arm of the FIA, which administers all forms for motor racing worldwide.

The statement said: "The South African Grand Prix is entered on the championship calendar and has taken place for many years past, as is the case of the Argentine, Brazilian or Portuguese Grands Prix."

"The Automobile Association of South Africa has always respected Article 2 of the FIA statutes in so far as racial or political problems in relation to international sporting events are concerned and drivers of any race or religion have the same rights as other drivers to take part in its Grand Prix."

"At the slightest sign to the contrary, the Automobile Association of South Africa would be immediately expelled from the FIA."

"The Automobile Association of South Africa officially confirmed the organisation of the

Grand Prix on Sept. 11 and gave the FIA all guarantees for the safety of the public and participants."

The FIA statement said that no national club among its 93 members had called on them to impose sanctions on the South African Association or to cancel the Grand Prix.

But two governments, France and Finland, had requested the FIA to cancel or transfer the race elsewhere, the statement said.

"Only a change in the situation and the safety conditions would induce the FIA to make an exceptional decision," the statement added.

Renault's decision not to participate because of the political situation in South Africa had been noted.

Asked how many cars were expected at Kyalami, Balestre said he believed a Grand Prix could start with as few as 12 cars.

He said that anyone who did not take part would be answerable to FIA.

BUILDING WANTED FOR RENT OR TO BUY

An embassy is looking for a building (preferably a new one) with intention either to rent or to buy. The building should meet the following specifications:

- 1- General number of square metres should be 500 - 800.
- 2- Number of floors should be preferably two — ground floor with two separate entrances for offices and first floor with two apartments; one bigger with additional entrance and guest bathroom and one smaller.
- 3- Three floor building with the same numbers of square metres will also be considered.
- 4- There should be at least two garages with locking doors.
- 5- The building should be surrounded at least by metal fence with lockable doors and gates.
- 6- Electrical installation should be able to accommodate a/c unit in every room and all sockets should be properly grounded.
- 7- Water installation should have cleanable filters at least for each floor.
- 8- Central heating does not have to be separate.
- 9- The building should have minimum 2 telephone lines.
- 10- The roof of the building should be properly arranged for possible usage as party floor also surrounded with a proper metal fence.
- 11- The simple garden at the back of the house is welcome.

Interested parties should present their offers together with photographs and drawings, with the price to sell and the price for rent to P.O. Box 2124, Amman.

PRIVATE FRENCH LESSONS

Female French teacher is qualified to give lessons in the French language for all age groups. Afternoons are preferable.

For more information please call 671073

WANTED

First-class restaurant in Shmeisani seeks experienced cook specialising in making pizza, hamburger and pastries.

— Assistant cook for above
— Kitchen and hall helper

If interested please call Tel. 603023 between 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 3:30 - 6:00 p.m.

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

A deluxe furnished apartment consisting of two bedrooms, saloon, two verandas, two bathrooms, a wash room, central heating and a large garden.

Location: Jabal Al Hussein - 'Aka Street
For information call: 668453 between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

JORDAN MEDICAL CORPORATION Queen Alia Hospital Employment notice

The administration of Queen Alia Hospital announces its need for the following personnel:

1. Qualified nurses — Male/female. To rotate 3 shifts for pediatrics — ICU — E.R. — O.R. and female practical nurses with experience in Pediatrics — E.R. — ICU.
2. Qualified midwives. To rotate 3 shifts.
3. Obstetric supervisor for O.B. area. Qualifications: R.N. and Midwife, nursery experience; Leadership qualities, minimum of 10 years experience in nursing.
4. Nursing administrative secretary — Arabic/English qualifications, preferably with knowledge of medical terminology.

Candidates with experience and good knowledge of Arabic and English please contact Messrs. Herman Smith Associates Int.,

Tel: 667729 to obtain application forms.

FOR RENT

Independent brand new floor in a villa, ground floor, consisting of 3 bedrooms, large reception halls, fully-equipped kitchen, 3 bathrooms, garage, with independent central heating, telephone, intercom system, emergency lighting system and central TV antenna. Area 280 square metres.

Premises could be rented furnished or unfurnished.

Location: Al Hussein Sports City area.
Please contact Tel: 670225 between 4-6 p.m.

ARABIC COURSES

The House of Languages
Jabal Amman - 2nd Circle

The House of Languages offers Arabic courses for foreigners: 1. Beginners 2. Advanced

The courses will start on Sept. 18, 1985.

For further information, please call tel: 641986.

DELUXE FURNISHED HOUSE FOR RENT

Consists of two bedrooms, salon, dining room, three verandas and other utilities, separate garage and telephone, deluxe furnished.

Location: Um Uthaina, Balqis Street, near Saudi ambassador's residence.

Please call 817370 from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

FURNISHED FLATS FOR RENT

Fully-furnished one bedroom and two bedroom flats, w/w carpet, colour TV, central heating, telephone.

Two locations, Jabal Amman, near Fifth Circle and Abdali area.

Phone: 673768, 672842 after 2 p.m.

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecra Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket
Mongolian Barbecue for lunch FRIDAY
Tel: 818214

Come and taste our specialties
Open daily

12:00 noon - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m. - Midnight

A HOUSE FOR RENT

1. Comfortable family house near shops consists of 3 bedrooms, sitting room, dining room, living room, kitchen, 2 bathrooms and toilet. Separated central heating with telephone.
2. Furnished house, consists of one bedroom, sitting room, dining room, kitchen and bathroom, central heating, telephone, colour TV and all necessary equipment. Location near Fifth Circle.

For information Tel: 667727 or 679087 from 8 a.m. till 6 p.m.

FOR RENT

House consists of three bedrooms, two bathrooms, two glassed verandas, living room, guest room, dining room, with separate central heating, telephone, garden, terrace and garage.

Either furnished or unfurnished.

Location: Dahlat Al Rashid, behind University Hospital, Tel: 667014.

FIRST RACE:

For beginner horses

Distance: 1,600 metres.

Time: 2 minutes 3 seconds.

HORSE	OWNER
1ST: Shamsih	Jamal Iyadhi El Zabin
2ND: Waheeb	Halel Noras El Falez
3RD: Sokout	Farhan Falih

SECOND RACE:

For beginner horses

Distance: 1,400 metres

Time: 1 minute 43 seconds

HORSE	OWNER
1ST: Eldahouk	Saleh Ghalib El Falez
2ND: Yazan	H.H. Late Sherif
	Nasir Bin Jamil Stable
	H.H. Late Sherif
3RD: Fitnih	Nasir Bin Jamil Stable

THIRD RACE:

For beginner horses

Distance: 1,000 metres

Time: 1 minute 5 seconds

HORSE	OWNER
1ST: Farah	Nawaf Mallouh El Falez
2ND: M. Sultan	Sultan Faisal A. Jnalb
3RD: Almalhon	Mohammad A. El Naby

FOURTH RACE:

For beginner horses

Distance: 2,000 metres

Time: 2 minutes 32 seconds

HORSE	OWNER
1ST: Khalith	Faisal Awwad El Falez
2ND: Hilal Maeen	Khalil Haddadin
3RD: Waheed	Samy Haddadin

FIFTH RACE:

For third class horses

Distance: 1,600

Time: 2 minutes 2 seconds

HORSE	OWNER
1ST: Nassar	Mohammad A. El Hady Rabie
2ND: Khatar	Mshary El Bakheet
3RD: M. Samy	Mohammad Salman Jbarat

SIXTH RACE:

For third class horses

Distance: 1,400 metres

Time: 1 minute 39 seconds

HORSE	OWNER
1ST: Sarim	H.H. Late Sherif
2ND: Kas El Molook	Nasir Bin Jamil Stable
3RD: El Hanoo	Faisal Awwad El Falez

 <p>Cinema CONCORD Tel: 44092-44280 677420 A VIEW TO A KILL (Colour) Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30</p>	 <p>Cinema AL-HUSSEIN Tel: 22117 VERDICT AT THE END OF TRIAL SESSION (Colour) Performances: 12-3 - 9:30-8</p>	 <p>Cinema RAINBOW Tel: 625155 JOHNNY DANGEROUSLY Performances: 3:00, 6:00, 9:00</p>	 <p>Cinema OPERA Tel: 875573 SUPERVAN Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 • Abdali, behind ALIA offices</p>	 <p>Cinema PALESTINE Tel: 22117 THE TWINS BRUCE LEE THE INVINCIBLE (Colour) Performances: 12-3-7</p>	 <p>Cinema RAGHADAN Tel: 22198 AANDHI-TOOFAAN (Colour) Performances: 12-3-6:30-9</p>	 <p>Cinema Philadelphia TRON Shows at 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:15 TEL: 34144-34149</p>
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New figures reveal sluggish U.S. economy, experts say

NEW YORK (R) — New figures released by the government paint the picture of a largely sluggish U.S. economy that will be hard pressed to grow by more than three per cent this quarter, economists say.

The government reported Friday that retail sales rose by 1.9 per cent in August, a producer price index decline of 0.3 per cent cancelled out an identical increase in July, while industrial production rose by a disappointingly small 0.3 per cent in August after no gain in July.

However, virtually all of the retail sales gain was due to a record pace of car sales spurred by financing incentives, leaving the economy vulnerable if the special deals were ended.

Excluding cars, retail sales rose by only 0.4 per cent.

"There is something going on in the economy," said Mr. Stephen Slifer of Shearson Lehman Brothers, "but it's limited to the auto sector."

Mr. Slifer saw no reason to change his estimate of two to 2.5 per cent growth in the third-quarter Gross National Product (GNP), measuring total U.S. production of goods and services.

Other economists agreed, with Ms. Maria Ramirez of Drexel Burnham Lambert projecting 2.7 per cent growth and Mr. Harold Nathan of Wells Fargo Bank estimating 2.5 to three per cent.

All differed from Mr. Beryl Spink, chairman of President Reagan's Council of Economic Advisors, who insisted that the latest figures reinforced the administration's forecast of five per cent second-half GNP growth.

"If auto sales slow down, we're in for a very low growth period," Mr. Nathan warned.

With the financing incentives still in force, car sales for the first 10 days of September, reported Friday, remained very strong at an annual rate of about 12.7 million compared with the record 13.5 million pace of late August.

Expectations of a vigorous economic rebound increased after last week's employment data showed 37,000 manufacturing jobs were created in August, but economists warned that the rise reflected faulty seasonal adjustment factors exaggerating the strength of employment in the car industry.

Cairo to get first subsidised wheat shipment from U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Egypt has become the first country to benefit from the U.S. government's new export subsidy programme designed to make U.S. farm commodities more competitive in world trade, U.S. Agriculture Secretary John R. Block announced Friday.

The deal involves 175,000 tonnes of wheat flour to be delivered to Egypt this fall for a price of \$180 per tonne which is about the current world price.

Under the arrangement, U.S. exporters will be given surplus government-owned wheat amounting to the equivalent of about \$66 per tonne.

That is the subsidy, sometimes called an export "payment-in-kind", that the exporters get in order to reduce their price to Egypt to \$180 per tonne.

Without the subsidy, the U.S. price for wheat flour is about \$246 per tonne.

Mr. Block told reporters that Egypt and other prospective buyers also have shown an interest in getting U.S. wheat under the subsidy programme but that the orders so far have not materialised.

The export "pik" programme was announced last May 15 as the U.S. answer to price cutting by the European Community, which has used subsidies to promote its exports of surplus farm commodities.

Only certain countries designated as targets are eligible to use the programme. Algeria and North Yemen are also eligible for the programme, but no sales have been announced.

The 175,000 tonnes of wheat flour is equivalent to about 233,000 tonnes or 8.55 million bushels of wheat. Recent department price estimates indicate the flour deal would have a farm value in wheat of about \$25 million.

U.S. wheat exports in 1985-86 to all countries are expected to be down almost 20 per cent from last year.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Sept. 7, '85 and ending Wednesday, Sept. 11, '85. (Figures in Jordan dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing Price	Par value
Jordan Islamic Bank	2079	5277	2.580	2.580	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	5740	15401	2.640	2.690	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	14283	23070	1.610	1.640	1.000
Housing Bank	3550	6228	1.750	1.760	1.000
Industrial Development Bank	3270	5169	1.590	1.590	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	13521	14782	1.080	1.090	1.000
Jordan Finance House	310969	431536	0.950	1.050	1.000
Islamic Investment House	37948	39236	1.030	1.030	1.000
Jordan National Bank	21017	607981	2.940	2.900	1.000
Finance & Credit Corporation (50%)	8395	4301	1.000	1.020	1.000
Darico Investment & Housing (75%)	5200	2682	0.760	0.770	1.000
Agarco (75%)	4500	2988	0.660	0.660	1.000
National Portfolio Securities (50%)	6013	15618	0.750	0.760	1.000
National Financial Investments	83978	83563	0.970	1.050	1.000
Bank of Jordan	733	18046	24.750	24.550	5.000
Arab Bank Ltd.	3880	694818	182.000	177.000	10.000
Jordan Insurance	3141	34969	11.000	11.450	1.000
Jordan French Insurance	1835	3601	3.150	3.100	1.000
Refco Insurance (50%)	1372	439	0.820	0.820	1.000
Jordan Electric Power	13611	21487	1.560	1.590	1.000
Arab International Hotels	11910	4381	0.360	0.370	1.000
National Shipping Lines	1725	1434	0.840	0.840	1.000
Petra Project & Leasing Equipment	7625	2257	0.790	0.800	1.000
Jordan Dairy	3739	4220	1.140	1.120	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	201537	147849	0.700	0.760	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	19185	61969	3.310	3.260	1.000
National Steel Industries	7200	8704	1.210	1.200	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	14250	11150	0.800	0.790	1.000
Jordan Ceramic	5520	5837	1.060	1.050	1.000
Jordan Paper & Cardboard Factories	2343	5761	2.440	2.450	1.000
Jordan Phosphates Mines	2277	6370	2.820	2.780	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	5470	6400	1.170	1.170	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	12575	4147	0.330	0.320	1.000
National Industries	10379	6537	0.630	0.630	1.000
Jordan Tobacco & Cigarettes	100	1300	13.000	13.000	5.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	5571	38341	6.940	6.830	5.000
Universal Chemical Industries	3490	4430	1.280	1.250	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	1756	10456	5.750	6.000	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Iotaj)	453	942	2.100	2.080	1.000
Arab Paper Coverters & Trading	1500	450	0.290	0.290	1.000
Arab Investment Bank	700	1400	2.000	2.000	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance	140	112	0.800	0.800	1.000
Arab Development and Investment	24878	14429	0.580	0.580	1.000
General Mining	50	83	1.670	1.660	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	480	614	1.300	1.280	1.000
Jordan Industries and Matches (JIMCO)	970	790	0.830	0.800	1.000
Arab Financial Corp. (Jordan)	13166	1300	1.300	1.360	1.000
Jordan Beer	825	3079	3.800	3.750	1.000
Wool Industries	300	240	0.800	0.800	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergents	980	3465	4.000	3.850	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	3670	5467	1.500	1.480	1.000
Petra Bank	1800	5756	3.500	3.300	1.000
Jordan Leasing and Equipment	1344	905	0.670	0.670	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	550	581	1.060	1.050	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	3700	1683	0.500	0.440	1.000
Chemical Industries	3220	3284	1.020	1.020	1.000
Aladdin Industries	18250	11826	0.690	0.650	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemicals (auctions)	195000	151419	0.790	0.780	1.000
Jordan Industrial Investments	4200	3480	0.770	0.830	1.000
Jordan and Gulf Investment and Finance	953	5721	1.110	1.120	1.000
Real Estate Financial Corp. (Refco)	76	1382	19.000	18.500	2.000
Jordan and Gulf Insurance	500	175	0.880	0.850	1.000
Jordan Hotels and Tourist	480	1656	3.600	3.450	1.000
Dar Al Sha'ab Press	7300	5290	0.790	0.740	1.000
Publishing and Distribution	140	129	0.910	0.920	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	150	600	4.070	4.000	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	28510	5967	0.340	0.200	1.000
Jordan Timber Industries					
Grand total	1,325,255	2,061,763			

OPEC warns non-members on oil output

VIENNA (R) — Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) on its 25th anniversary, said Saturday it would eventually be back in control of the world oil market.

Non-cartel producers, whose rising cut-price sales have displaced OPEC oil in a saturated market, would soon have to turn down the taps, it said, or else spend huge sums to squeeze more oil from reserves that they are using up too fast.

"Non-OPEC countries ... are depleting their limited oil reserves so fast that they will soon have to invest huge and exorbitant capital in order to prevent a drastic fall in their production," an anniversary statement by OPEC Secretariat said.

But OPEC's policy of prolonging the life of its reserves would "eventually bring it back to the fore as the future main supplier of oil in the world," it declared.

OPEC's 13 members hold two thirds of world oil reserves. The cartel produced half the non-communist world's oil in its heyday in 1979 but today accounts for only one third.

The statement criticised non-members for "systematically under-cutting OPEC prices" to boost sales but added: "We are convinced that what is needed today is the full cooperation of all those involved — OPEC, non-OPEC and consumers alike — to maintain the essential price stability."

Those who adopt an uncooperative attitude to OPEC in favour of short-term price cutting will discover, perhaps too late, that the economics of the short-term are also the economics of the short-sighted," Vienna-based OPEC said.

It is highly regrettable that some oil consuming and producing countries outside OPEC have stood doggedly in opposition, refusing to learn from the lessons of history," it noted.

Lower oil prices and the present cut in OPEC's market share have severely strained unity in the cartel which has failed to organise cuts in its output below a ceiling of 16 million barrels daily — two million more than it can sell.

Its biggest achievement in its 25 years, it said Saturday, had been to curb exploitation of its members by the multinational oil giants.

"Without the organisation, the production and pricing of the oil companies would have led to such a rapid depletion of its member countries' huge reserves that today an energy shortage would have been inevitable," it said.

"In doing so, OPEC has reserved for generations to come enough oil to meet future world requirements," it said.

There is speculation from industry sources that Saudi Arabia is adopting a bold strategy to assert its interests within OPEC and regain its power in the international oil market which has been dwindling away.

This strategy has Saudi Arabia raising its output to the 4.35 million barrels per day OPEC quota. Level by the end of the year and then moving over that in the first quarter of 1986 in an attempt to pressure the price down and force non-OPEC countries to share some of the burden of lower production.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, SEPT. 15, 1985
GENERAL TENDENCIES: After some early morning muddled thinking about exactly how to utilize this Sunday to fullest possible advantage, you find you have good ideas for the future.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Morning boredom can be dispelled by the appearance of good friends and you can have a fine time together.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Avoid that self-enclosed associate and be with persons you admire and have a good time together.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Look for more interesting activities and forget dull duties that can await your attention and perk up your spirit.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Enjoy pleasures with your mate and forget the amusements you have been planning to have with others.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get your health improved early since later you can be with partners and get much accomplished. Study modern enterprises.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be careful and you avoid an early morning accident and then you can plan work for several weeks ahead.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Try not to disturb kin in any way in the morning since later you can all enjoy amusements together. Show thoughtfulness.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be gentle with any pals in the morning and later you can have fun at home. Evening is best for entertaining.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A personal anxiety could cause you to make some errors, so postpone reaching decisions and get good advice from friends.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Avoid that demanding friend in the morning, then tonight plan how to make repairs to your property.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A home affair requires time and tact in the morning, but after lunch, you can go after what you desire and get it.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Stay away from individuals whose ideas are radically different to your own and avoid arguments. Do something special for mate.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be very charming and magnetic in early youth, but want own way, so use gentle discipline to teach to be more reasonable. Later the personality becomes more tractable and your progeny should be very successful.

THE Daily Crossword

by Lee Jones

ACROSS

- Profile author?
- It has its day
- For and
- Briefly brilliant star
- Disco dance
- Turt
- Bit of news
- "I cannot — it"
- Minor school sub
- Economic system
- Tentative
- Table scraps
- Water mammal
- Globules
- Oceanic abbr.
- Before
- In re
- Kettledrums
- Henry Ford
- Surgeon's tool
- Environmental science: abbr.
- Bring no.
- Literary collection
- Swelling
- "I have a —"
- Minor prophet
- Coal fields
- Result of 36A
- "How sweet —"
- Discoconcert
- Twin
- Layer of Neute
- Forty — not
- Didier's word
- Tuesday ruler
- Crystalline stone
- First place

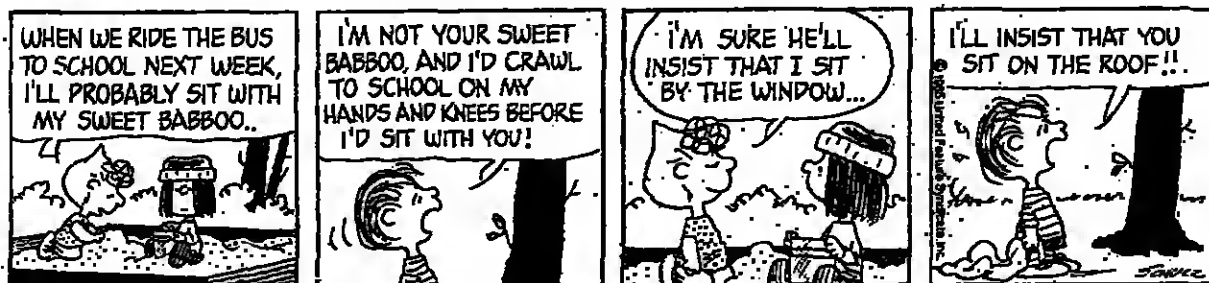
DOWN

- Cuckoo
- Staple
- Value too high?
- The
- Not now
- Ten-percent
- Fasteners
- Give the eye
- Leonine
- To one side
- Measurable
- Puzzling problem
- Cubic meter
- Darm goddess
- Actress Bergen
- Blind as —
- "I say, —"
- Pierle priest
- Laurel
- Wine — owl
- Anatomical
- Elbow unit
- Pung
- Rascal
- Like some seas
- Put on the
- slate
- Vague
- Allow in idly
- Bounce back
- Superfactive ending
- One analysis
- Self city
- Meditated
- Pigment: var.
- Tolled
- Acting award
- hard, but
- afraid
- Chaney

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS
1. PROFILE
2. IT HAS ITS DAY
3. FOR AND
4. BRIEFLY
5. DISCO
6. TURT
7. BIT OF NEWS
8. "I CANNOT — IT"
9. MINOR SCHOOL SUB
10. ECONOMIC
11. TENTATIVE
12. TABLE SCRAPS
13. WATER MAMMAL
14. GLOBULES
15. OCEANIC ABBR.
16. BEFORE
17. IN RE
18. KETTLEDRUMS
19. HENRY FORD
20. SURGEON'S TOOL
21. ENVIRONMENTAL
22. BRING NO.
23. LITERARY
24. SWELLING
25. "I HAVE A —"
26. MINOR PROPHET
27. COAL FIELDS
28. RESULT OF 36A
29. "HOW SWEET —"
30. DISCOCONCERT
31. TWIN
32. LAYER OF NEUTE
33. FORTY — NOT
34. DIDIER'S WORD
35. TUESDAY RULER
36. CRYSTALLINE
37. FIRST PLACE
38. TEN-PERCENT
39. FASTENERS
40. GIVE THE EYE
41. LEONINE
42. TO ONE SIDE
43. MEASURABLE
44. PUZZLING
45. CUBIC METER
46. DARM GODESS
47. ACTRESS BERGEN
48. BLIND AS —
49. "I SAY, —"
50. PIERLE PRIEST
51. LAUREL
52. WINE — OWL
53. ANATOMICAL
54. ELBOW UNIT
55. PUNG
56. RASCAL
57. LIKE SOME SEAS
58. PUT ON THE
59. SLATE
60. VAGUE
61. ALLOW IN
62. IDLY
63. BOUNCE BACK
64. SUPERFACTIVE
65. ENDING
66. ONE ANALYSIS
67. SELF CITY
68. MEDITATED
69. PIGMENT: VAR.
70. TOLLED
71. ACTING AWARD
72. — HARD, BUT
73. — AFRAID
74. CHANEY

Peanuts



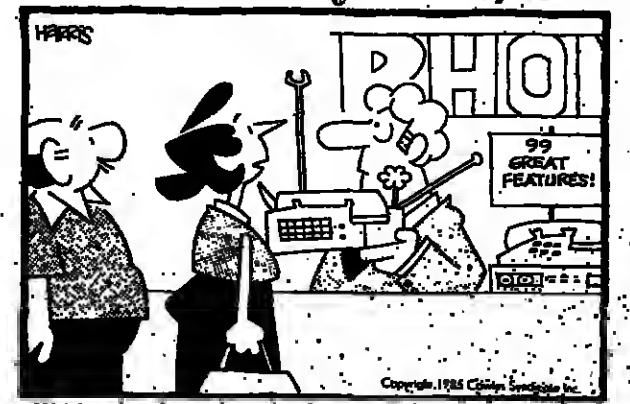
Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF.



JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles: one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

First fill these out in triplicate. Then take them to... APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED HERE

KAWTE
ROJEK
TULTER
EMPAND

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: A

Yesterday's Jumble: HITCH ACRID ERMINE JURIST
Answer: What the violinist was up to — HIS CHIN IN MUSIC

U.S. 'successfully' tests satellite killer weapon

Soviets, Czechs condemn ASAT test

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States has conducted an "absolutely flawless" test of a satellite killer weapon, hitting a U.S. satellite in orbit over the Pacific Ocean, the Defence Department said.

The 30-centimetre anti-satellite (ASAT) weapon mounted on a booster rocket was launched Friday from an F-15 fighter jet near the California coast and hit an old U.S. scientific satellite 555 kilometres above the earth, the air force said.

President Reagan ordered the first such U.S. test against an orbiting target despite Soviet warnings that it would ignite a space weapons race and appeals from Congress to delay the test.

The air force said specific test results were classified, but that the "ASAT miniature vehicle successfully hit the target."

"From everything that we can tell, it went absolutely flawless," Air Force Lt. Gen. Bernard Randolph said.

Gen. Randolph, head of Air Force Research and Development Programmes, said the ASAT weapon hit the satellite at 4:42 p.m. EDT (2042 GMT).

The test was monitored by instruments aboard the small projectile — carried into space by a two-stage six-metre rocket — and by ground radar of the North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD).

The F-15 jet took off from Edwards Air Force Base in California, climbed to an altitude of nearly 40,000 feet (12 kilometres) and launched the ASAT, which is guided by 36 tiny steering rockets and seeks the speeding target with infrared sensors.

Gen. Randolph said the whole operation took "a few hours" between the F-15's takeoff and

the ASAT impact with the satellite. He would not be more specific.

The Soviet Union, which has an older and more cumbersome ASAT system, warned the Reagan administration last week that it would end a self-imposed moratorium on ASAT testing if the U.S. test was carried out.

Ninety-eight members of Congress sent Mr. Reagan a letter on Thursday asking him to postpone the test and instead negotiate with the Soviet Union in Geneva for a ban on space weapons. The superpower arms talks resume next Thursday.

Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger called the U.S. test "a great step forward," according to Gen. Randolph. He said Mr. Weinberger looked forward to a second ASAT test against a target in the next few months.

The U.S. ASAT weapon was tested twice last year against points in space, but not against an actual target like Friday's test.

Gen. Randolph said he did not know if a second live-target test would be conducted before the mid-November summit meeting between Mr. Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"I really can't speculate on that," the general said when asked at a news conference if the test was monitored by the Soviet Union.

Gen. Randolph was reluctant to say when a U.S. ASAT system might become operational, saying that "we will have to conduct a number of tests more before the

system could be considered operational."

The Pentagon pointed out again Saturday that the Soviet Union already had an anti-satellite system.

The United States is developing its ASAT capability to redress this serious imbalance to deter Soviet threats to U.S. and allied space systems and to deny any adversary advantages arising from the offensive use of space-based weapons, a Pentagon spokesman said.

Both the United States and the Soviet Union have military spy satellites in space. Each side would rely heavily on targeting and other information from satellites in case of war and neither wants its satellites vulnerable to attack.

The Soviet system involves a cumbersome 150-foot (45 metre) ground-launched booster rocket. U.S. experts say it is slower and much less potent than the American weapon.

The Soviet ASAT is sent into orbit, manoeuvres into the path of a satellite and explodes, scattering destructive metal chaff at the target.

The U.S. weapon is much more sophisticated. It involves an 18-foot (six metre) rocket which is propelled by a two-stage, solid fuel booster.

In the rocket's nose is the cylindrical warhead 12 inches (30.48) centimetres by 13 inches (33 cms), packed with silicon chips and electronic gear.

After it separates from the missile, the weapon locks onto the speeding satellite with eight tiny telescopes which gather infrared (heat) signals from the target. A computer sorts out the str-

eam of information, including inertial guidance reading, and 36 small steering rockets keep the warhead on course until it smashes into the satellite at high speed.

Meanwhile, the official Soviet News Agency TASS has condemned the U.S. test of an anti-satellite (ASAT) weapon as a dangerous move, saying it proved the determination of the United States to spread the arms race into space.

"Washington took this dangerous step despite broad protests from world opinion," the agency said in the first official Soviet reaction to the test. "It leads directly to the start of the deployment of a new class of weapons — space strike weapons."

Washington demonstrated that an increase in the arms race and its spreading into space is a cornerstone of the policy of the United States.

Czechoslovakia's official news agency Ceteka described the test as provocative and said it violated Soviet-U.S. treaties on anti-satellite defence systems limitation.

"The provocative test... is also part of U.S. tactics before the new round of the Geneva talks on space and nuclear weapons that open on Sept. 19," it said in a commentary.

The agency said Friday's test was clear evidence that the U.S. administration was not interested in increasing security in the world and in eliminating the threat of war.

The action was also a "practical and clear denial of the Reagan administration's assertions that it wants to engage in serious disarmament talks with Moscow and that it is interested in reducing arms arsenals," the agency added.



A U.S. anti-satellite weapon streaks across the sky after it was fired from an F-15 jet in the first test of the weapon on Friday (AP wirephoto).

Protests erupt after 3 are killed in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Protests broke out in black and mixed-race townships throughout South Africa overnight after three people died in 24 hours of unrest, police said.

A white man was injured when his car was stoned in the eastern Cape and a black man was shot, wounded and arrested when a crowd stoned a black policeman's house in the same area, police said Saturday.

In the western Cape, scene of some of the worst recent violence, a man classified as coloured or mixed-race under apartheid laws was shot and arrested after a petrol bomb attack on a beer shop.

By Friday night police had reported three deaths in 24 hours of protests — a black youth shot by police near Cape Town, another shot in Johannesburg's black satellite city of Soweto, and a white man who died after he was attacked by a black crowd near Cape Town.

The government has banned a church conference due to take place Saturday in Soweto, saying it would threaten public safety.

Soweto police chief Brig. Jan Coetzee told Reuters Saturday that 746 schoolchildren held by police there since Thursday were still being detained under emergency laws clamped on Johannesburg and the eastern Cape in July.

The children are alleged to have been planning to boycott classes, in defiance of the emergency regulations. Coetzee said lawyers had applied for a court order for their release and this was likely to be heard later Saturday or Sunday.

Nobel Peace Prize Winner Desmond Tutu, Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg, was to have addressed the conference in Soweto Saturday of the South African chapter of the New York-based World Conference on Religion and Peace (WCRP).

"This is crazy," he said of the government ban.

"A lecture dedicated to peace, which talks about peace, about how people can live together, is regarded as likely to endanger public order. Are we living in Alice in Wonderland?"

Police said they had reason to believe that "the safety of members of the public and their property and the maintenance of public order will be seriously endangered" by the meeting.

The WCRP, which includes some non-Christian sects, said five of its leaders were barred from entering South Africa.

Meanwhile, white South African businessmen and outlawed black guerrillas have held unprecedented talks in the remote African bush and agreed they found enough common ground to raise hopes for solution of their beleaguered country's troubles.

Under the watchful eye of Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda at his private lodge in an unspoiled game sanctuary, the two sides discussed South Africa present and future for six hours.

The venue was shrouded in secrecy until the start of the talks, attacked by South African President P.W. Botha as a display of disloyalty to his rule by the corporate leaders.

But both sides, led by Anglo-American Conglomerate head Gavin Rolly and African National Congress (ANC) President Oliver Tambo, emerged afterwards to say the discussions had been positive and useful and boded well for future dialogue.

Mr. Rolly, leading a seven-man team of business figures and top editors, said: "It was a very useful and successful day."

Mr. Tambo, the mild-mannered, soft-spoken head of the most militant anti-apartheid organisation, commented: "We reached considerable understanding of each other's positions on a number of issues."

The talks, initiated by Mr. Kaunda, who has long advocated a peaceful solution to South Africa's racial problems, were widely seen to reflect corporate frustration at Mr. Botha's reluctance or inability to deal with the violent black unrest that has swept the country since the beginning of last year.

10 top Chinese leaders to step down

PEKING (R) — Nearly half of the 24-member politburo of the Chinese Communist Party, including its oldest member, will be replaced at closed-door meetings apparently underway here, Western diplomats said Saturday.

The meeting of the party's 210-member Central Committee has been called by top leader Deng Xiaoping, 81, to bring younger, better educated people into China's leadership elite and to ensure continuation of modernisation policies.

Chinese officials have not announced the start of the meeting, but Western diplomats said they understood the sessions began Friday.

"The new leadership that is being promoted is more keen on economic modernisation and improving living standards than ideology and politics," one analyst said.

The diplomats said the most important resignation would be that of Ye Jianying, 88, a member of both the politburo and its six-member standing committee.

Ye, a career soldier and veteran of the Communist's long march of 1934-35, is seen by many as a symbol of opposition to Mr.

Deng's economic reforms. A Chinese official told Reuters that Ye had been ill for more than a year and could not work at all now.

A Western diplomat said 10 of the 24 members of the politburo, including Ye, would be replaced. Among the 10 are Li Desheng, 72, China's longest serving regional military chief until he was relieved of his command in June when the country's main military regions were cut from 11 to seven.

Li, also a career soldier, rose to power in the ultra-leftist Cultural Revolution of 1966-76.

Investigators have been trying to establish whether this bulkhead may have ruptured and released a gush of compressed air that wrecked the tailfin.

The officials, presenting a second interim report, told a press conference that a piece of metal called the bulkhead splice plate had been fixed in two parts instead of the usual one.

"The repair was different from usual but cannot be called unduly abnormal," one official said.

The officials displayed photographs of fine lines in the bulkhead and said that metal fatigue could not be ruled out. But they declined to speculate whether the repair could have been responsible for metal fatigue.

Boeing aircraft company said last week a repair to the bulkhead in 1978 had been faulty and that the splice plate was incorrectly held by two rows rather than the normal three rows of rivets.

The plate is used to reinforce the 36 curved, overlapping panels forming the bulkhead which resembles an opened umbrella.

The report offered no firm conclusions on the cause of the crash.

JAL Jumbo repair was reportedly 'unusual'

TOKYO (R) — Japanese officials said Saturday repair to the suspect rear section of the Jumbo jet that crashed killing 520 people had been different from usual.

But Transport Ministry officials declined to speculate whether the work on the pressure bulkhead might have played a part in the central Japan crash on Aug. 12 of a Japan Air Lines (JAL) Boeing 747 — the world's worst single plane disaster.

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Second Afghan rebel leader dies in fighting

ISLAMABAD (R) — An Afghan guerrilla chief has been killed fighting Soviet and Afghan forces near the Pakistan border, the second to die in a week during the big Communist push against guerrillas, his party said Saturday.

Fatullah Haqqani, head of the main guerrilla force facing thousands of Communist troops for the past three weeks in south-east Pakistan province, died under mortar fire Friday.

Two local commanders were killed with him near Lezha, the Hezb-i-Islami Party said.

The offensive, aimed at breaking a rebel siege of the garrison town of Khost and blocking guerrilla supply routes from Pakistan, has become bogged down trying to flush out rebel strongholds near Lezha, rebel sources in Peshawar said.

But Soviet reinforcements appear to have reached Pakia's capital of Gardez further west, they added.

Fatullah Haqqani, number two to Pakia's leading rebel Commander Jalaluddin Haqqani, was killed one week after the third-in-command, Ahmad Gul, fell to Moscow's biggest and bloodiest offensive of the year in Afghanistan.

Casualties have been heavy on both sides, with diplomats estimating Communist dead and wounded at more than 1,000. Rebel and civilian wounded have been pouring into Pakistan.

Jalaluddin Haqqani, not related to Fatullah, is in Saudi Arabia on the annual Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca.

Yunus Khales, head of the commanders' party, said Friday: "We are saddened by the martyrdom of Fatullah Haqqani but we will not retreat."

Despite the losses, the "Mujahideen" (Islamic warriors) in Pakia appear to have enough weapons and supplies following large deliveries from Pakistan and several Arab countries, rebel sources said.

S. Korea sends home Chinese airman

SEOUL (Agencies) — The radio operator of a Chinese bomber which crashed-landed in a South Korean rice field was sent home Saturday, the Defence Ministry said.

The ministry statement said the airman, Liu Shinyi, returned to China at his request.

Liu carried with him the ashes of the plane's navigator, Sun Maochun, who was killed when the air-

craft crashed on Aug. 24 and whose body was cremated at the request of Chinese authorities.

The pilot of the Soviet-designed H-5 light bomber, Xiao Tianrun, has asked for political asylum in Taiwan. He remains in hospital for treatment to injuries suffered in the crash, the statement said.

"After his health has sufficiently recovered and when the appropriate domestic legal pro-

cedures relating to his violation of (South Korea's) territorial air space has been completed, it is the government policy to allow him to leave the republic as he wishes."

A South Korean spokesman did not say how Liu was repatriated.

He said, "the body of navigator Sun Maochun was cremated at the request of PRC (Chinese) authorities and his ashes were carried home by the radio operator."

Cash shortage hampers growth of Third World nuclear power

VIENNA (R) — The use of nuclear energy could help ease the plight of poverty-stricken Third World countries, but its growth is hampered mainly by a lack of cash, experts at a four-day international meeting were told here this week.

"If they could finance it a lot of them would go for it," a spokesman for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which promotes the civil use of nuclear energy, told Reuters.

Electricity consumption, considered vital for industrial development, is growing at a faster rate in developing nations than in industrialised countries, IAEA statistics show.

The U.N. agency forecasts that by the year 2000 the nuclear power share in electricity generation in industrialised nations will increase to 25 per cent from 18 per cent today.

"Only some five to 10 per cent of their new capacity additions (in the Third World) will be nuclear," another IAEA official, Leonard

Bennett, said in a statement at the meeting on the financing of nuclear power in developing nations.

He declared the outlook as disappointing, but there "would still mean a market for some 50 to 100 nuclear power units, the great majority of which will be based on imported designs," Mr. Bennett added.

Mr. Bennett said this represented 15 to 20 per cent of the total expected additions in the industrialised world and very likely more than 50 per cent of the total export market for nuclear power plants.

Experts agreed that the growth of nuclear power in the Third World was hampered by a lack of cash to finance the plants which require a relatively high investment.

The agency, which organised the meeting, maintains that hydro-electric, coal-fired or nuclear power plants are the only viable alternatives for large scale expansion of electricity systems in the foreseeable future.

France dismisses nuclear test critics

MURUROA, French Polynesia (R) — President Francois Mitterrand has dismissed criticism of French nuclear tests in the South Pacific and forcefully asserted his country's rights in the region.

Presidential spokesman Michel Vauzelle said Mr. Mitterrand began a high-level meeting at France's Mururoa atoll nuclear test site by stating "with gravity and resolution that France had rights" in this part of the world, the French news agency ACP reported.

The president was greeted by full military honors by a contingent of Foreign Legionnaires as he arrived on the low-lying atoll.

After a visit to secret test installations and meetings, he left French Polynesia to return to France.

Mr. Mitterrand, on a half-day trip to the isolated coral reef with six government ministers, was speaking Friday at the first meeting of a South Pacific Coordinating Committee of senior

France dismisses nuclear test critics

French diplomats, officers and administrators from the region.

Mr. Vauzelle said after the meeting that "France's sovereignty cannot be questioned and no one can take decisions in its place unless they want to be seen as an adversary."

The talks brought together defence officials, the commissioners for New Caledonia and French Polynesia, and the ambassadors to the United States, Japan, Australia, New Zealand and four Pacific island states.

Officials said the talks touched on the military, diplomatic, and cultural aspects of French presence in the region. Mr. Mitterrand will reconvene the committee for regular meetings and will personally keep a check on its progress.

The president left French Polynesia from the nearby atoll of Hao after meeting Polynesian government leader Gaston Flosse at Mururoa. Mr. Mitterrand was expected back in Paris Saturday

France dismisses nuclear test critics

evening after stops in Lima, Cayenne and Dakar.

The government allowed only two journalists to attend the gathering held at the top security test site, 1,200 kilometres from Tahiti.

Mururoa, Mr. Vauzelle said, was vital to the development and modernisation of France's nuclear deterrent force.

He added that Mr. Mitterrand's decision earlier this year to upgrade and boost military facilities in New Caledonia also signalled "France's will to remain present and to preserve its interests as well as the means of its independence and its freedom."

A decree issued in Paris Thursday authorised the government to acquire land, by compulsory purchase if necessary, to develop air force, army and navy facilities in New Caledonia.

The government has budgeted around 400 million francs (\$45 million) to build up a base there over the next three years.

France dismisses nuclear test critics

A communiqué issued at the end of the gathering, described by Colombian Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo as the most fruitful so far, set a November target date for a blueprint to end strife in Central America.

Ramirez Ocampo, arriving in Colombia after the meeting, said he saw no possibility of a new failure for the three-year-old Contadora effort, dogged by a series of setbacks.

Diplomats in Panama said earlier the Contadora representatives had discouraged Costa Rica from making a public attack on Nicaragua over border incidents in an effort to prevent specific squabbles from hindering progress.

France dismisses nuclear test critics

two-day meeting in Panama of the foreign ministers of the Contadora countries — Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela and Panama — and their Central American counterparts.

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COLUMN

2 sentenced to death for robbery killing

MOSCOW (R) — Two men have been sentenced to death for killing a security official during an attempted robbery in Moscow, the newspaper Vechernyaya Moskva has said. It said Leonid Popov, 25, and Alexei Sobolev, 29, shot three officials collecting money from the shoe store, wounding one fatally. The newspaper did not say when they would be executed.

Model worker 'was a secret drinker'

MOSCOW (R) — A collective farm foreman long respected as a model Soviet worker was unmasked as a secret drinker when police found 15 litres (26 pints) of illegal home-brewed liquor in his home, Pravda said Saturday. The foreman was so ashamed in court that he wished the earth could have swallowed him up, the Communist Party daily said of Ivan Kudrinsky, who had established a reputation for refusing to tolerate drunkenness in his team. Pravda said the case had led to the discovery of other home-brewers in Kudrinsky's region in the Republic of Byelorussia. All received fines and terms of corrective labour.

Cash, passports robbed from Sicilian resort

CEPALU, Sicily (R) — Armed bandits who arrived by sea robbed the Club Mediterraneo resort on the northern Sicilian coast here of cash and hundreds of passports on Thursday night, a club employee said Saturday. Five or six men landed from a boat and made their way to the club's offices. They held several employees at gunpoint and took tens of millions of lire worth of Italian and foreign currency and hundreds of passports from a safe. The employee told Reuters the exact amount of money and the number of passports stolen was still unknown. Newspaper reports said the robbers got away with 150 million lire (about \$76,000) and 600 passports.

Infant dies of AIDS

MONTPELLIER, France (AP) — An 18-month-old boy suffering from AIDS died here this week, the infant's pediatrician said Friday. Dr. Michel Rodiere said the boy, a twin born prematurely, contracted Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) after receiving a blood transfusion at birth. The child, whose identity was not revealed, was under the care of a Paris physician, but his condition suddenly deteriorated over the August holiday and he was admitted to Montpellier's Guilleme Hospital. Dr. Rodiere said the baby died last Sunday, bringing to four the number of children who have died of AIDS in France. The usually fatal disease, with no known cure, depletes the body's immune system. Prime Minister Laurent Fabius ordered tests for all blood donors to determine the presence of the AIDS virus. The tests began in August.

Reagan says U.S. presidents should serve 3 terms

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan privately told a group of state legislators this week that presidents should be allowed to serve more than two terms, according to Saturday editions of the Washington Post. The Post, quoting one of the participants in the session at the Tampa, Florida, airport Thursday, said Mr. Reagan told the group that he has no personal interest in seeking a third four-year term. However, the president said he believes as a matter of principle that the 22nd amendment to the U.S. constitution, which limits a president to two terms, should be repealed, the unidentified participant told the newspaper. The participant was one of about a dozen members of a group called the American Legislative Exchange Council who met with Mr. Reagan in a brief closed session, the Post said. The White House described the group as conservative legislators and Presidential Spokesman Larry Speakes said all but one of those meeting with Mr. Reagan were Republicans.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q1—As South, vulnerable, you hold: ♠ 74 ♠ AQ982 ♠ 93 ♠ Q1065 The bidding has proceeded: North East South West 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ 2 ♠ 2 ♠ Pass ? What action do you take? Q2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠ A78 ♠ AQJ106 ♠ AJ5 ♠ 84 The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass ? What do you bid now? Q3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠ 9763 ♠ A85 ♠ Q762 ♠ K5 The bidding has proceeded: West North East South 1 ♠ Dble Pass 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass ? What action do you take?	Q4—As South, vulnerable, you hold: ♠ QJ6 ♠ A53 ♠ AKQJ873 The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass 3 NT Pass ? What action do you take? Q5—As South, vulnerable, you hold: ♠ K732 ♠ Q85 ♠ KQ1092 The bidding has proceeded: South West North East Pass Pass 1 ♠ Pass ? What do you bid now? Q6—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠ 542 ♠ 863 ♠ 2109754 ♠ 9 The bidding has proceeded: West North East South 1 ♠ Dble Pass 1 ♠ 2 ♠ Dble Pass ?
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